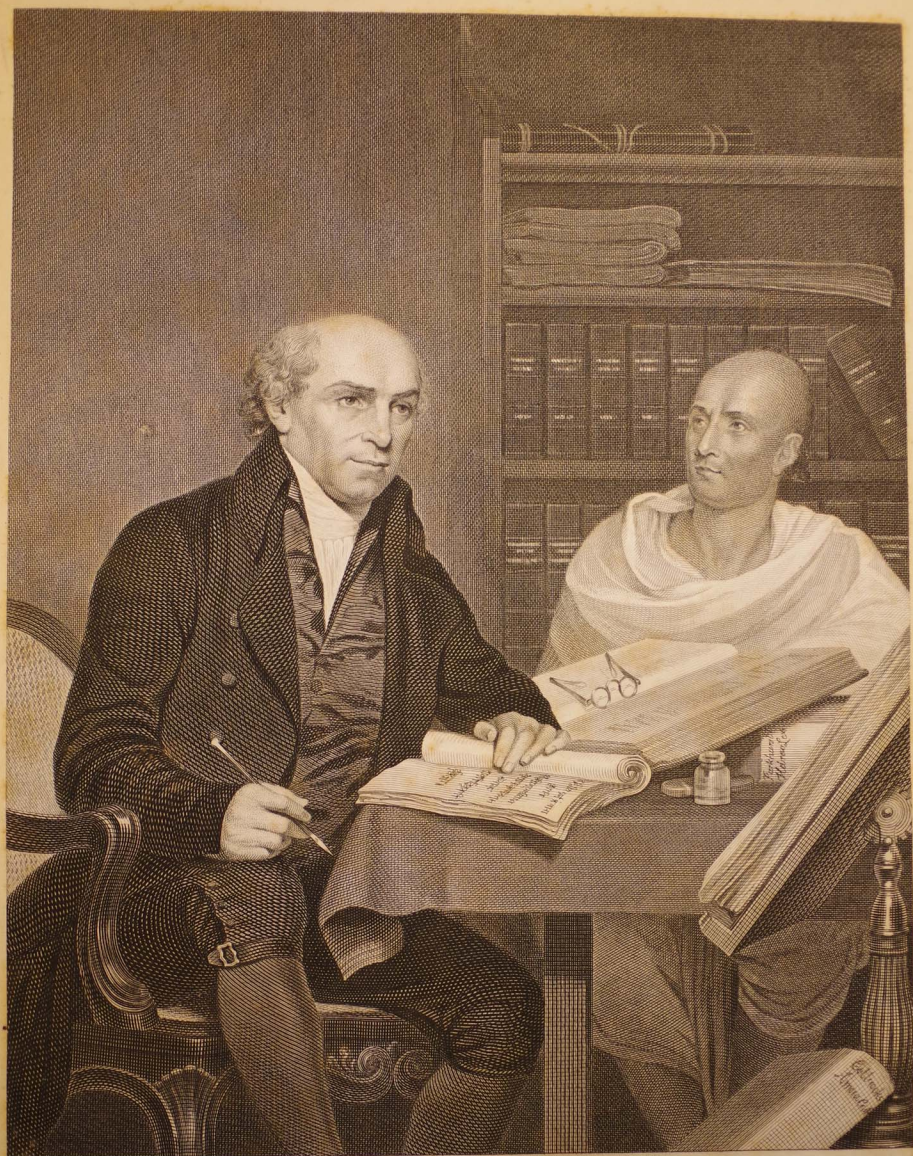




GEORGE BAKER, ESQ.
HISTORIAN OF NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.



ROBE. FRISKY.

BY WORTHINGTON SCULPTOR

PROFESSOR CAREY, of the College of Fort William, CALCUTTA.
attended by his Prudhi.

TO THE READER.

I AM fully and painfully aware that the long interval which has elapsed since the completion of the first volume, has been the subject of frequent complaint; but no one can regret the delay so deeply, or with such substantial reason as myself. The work is complete so far as it has proceeded, and no subscription has been solicited or paid in advance; but to me the case is widely different, as I am subjected to the inconvenience, and it is no trifling one, of incurring a continued expence in the prosecution of my labours, without any pecuniary return till the period of publication. Independent of those temporary and private interruptions to which every undertaking extended through a series of years is necessarily subject, and which can be neither foreseen nor eluded, my apparently slow progress has arisen from a scrupulous and feverish anxiety to render the work as perfect and authentic as the means within my reach will possibly admit.

— “My endeavours
Have ever come too short of my desires,
Yet, fill'd with my abilities.”

The sources of topographical information are numerous, but, unfortunately, they are often imperfect, and sometimes apparently irreconcilable, if not absolutely contradictory. I have frequently spent days, and even nights, in endeavouring to ascertain a single fact, or clear up a doubtful point, which when accomplished would scarcely add a single line to the narrative; conscious at the same time that my subscribers were complaining of, and that I was in a pecuniary view suffering from the delay created by this fastidiousness. In pedigrees these discrepancies and difficulties are continually occurring, and it would be a much easier task to adopt without further examination the authority which is deemed the best, than carefully to investigate the comparative evidence in favour of each, and submit every statement or hypothesis to the test of public records, private deeds and wills, parochial registers, and every species of collateral or positive evidence which can be brought to bear on the subject. The light thrown on this department by access to private muniments can scarcely be overrated, and I beg most gratefully to acknowledge that I have been singularly favoured in this respect so far as my progress has hitherto extended; yet it is obvious that in proportion to the confidence with which I have been honoured has the consequent consumption of time operated to produce delay in publication, though, instead of being matter of regret, it has been as beneficial to my work, as gratifying to my own feelings.

Truths which are interesting to, and are, or hereafter may be of practical utility within the local district, constitute the principal value of a County History; and every other consideration ought to be subordinate to their attainment. I confess I am apt to become insensible to the lapse of time whilst hunting up a new fact, or verifying a debatable one; and I am tempted to quote the motto of my first volume, “What toyle hath been taken, as no man thinketh so no man believeth but *he* that hath made the tryall.” My researches have, however, as already hinted, been facilitated by the most unreserved communications, and my labours been smoothed by courtesy, condescension, and kindness beyond my most sanguine expectations from the nobility, gentry, and clergy within the line of my past investigation; and I shall continue to prosecute my inquiries with unabated zeal, and with feelings of the warmest gratitude towards those who promote my views either by their subscription, their contribution of plates, or their personal kindness.

PREFACE.

Though I have a subscription list of which I may be justly proud, as it contains none but spontaneous patrons, never having personally applied to or solicited a single subscriber, yet perhaps I may be excused remarking on the present occasion, that an *accession* to the list would be very acceptable. I have lost many subscribers by death, and the fluctuations of property since the commencement of my undertaking. Some individuals excuse themselves from subscribing, on the plea that they shall not live to see its completion; and others wait till that period before they purchase. The former class might be reminded that life is equally uncertain to the author, and *their* principle if generally acted upon would put an effectual veto on all expensive works, which can only be published by individuals under the guarantee of a *subscription*. The latter class too, if numerous, would prevent the publication they profess to desire; and the author is certainly under no obligation to one who withholds his assistance, and purchases for his own private and selfish gratification. It would be both affectation and a false assumption of independence to deny altogether the influence of pecuniary considerations; but it will be believed that they did not enter into my original views, when it is known that the topography of my native county was the delight of my very childhood, and has engrossed all my leisure for nearly forty years. The last twenty years have been diligently, and, so far as my time has been at my own command, exclusively devoted to the work in which I am engaged, and I can anticipate no obstacle in its progress to completion, so long as my life and health are spared. And should it be left incomplete, it will be no trifling consolation to me, and may perhaps be satisfactory to my subscribers to be informed, that my collections for the *whole county* are of such a nature, and in such a state, being all arranged and indexed, as will lay a substantial foundation for, and materially lighten the labours of any one who may undertake the continuation of my design.

ERRATA.

P. 37, l. 3, *for* John Prudde *r.* Robert Prudde.

P. 53, l. 11, *for* Peck *r.* Beck.

P. 60, l. 3, *for* 1639 *r.* 1369.

P. 72, last line but 3, *for* above on an *r.* above an.

P. 105, l. 7, after "Buckinghamshire," dele the period, and add "to."

P. 112, last line col. 1, *for* co. Chamb. *r.* Chacomb.

P. 125, l. 3, after the pedigree, *for* reversing *r.* reserving.

Norton Hundred,

In the Saxon era^a, and after the Norman conquest^b, was designated from FOXLEY, a hamlet on its northern boundary, and now parcel of three different parishes, Blakesley, Pateshull, and Litchborough, and of three different hundreds, Norton, Towcester, and Fawsley. The change to its present appellation first occurs in the Hydarium of Hen. 2, when, omitting some of the hamlets, and adding a part of Pateshull, it contained the same places as at the present time^c. It is, however, a most anomalous circumstance, that Foxley itself is not merely absent there, but the three separate portions of it are surveyed under *Towcester* hundred^d. Norton Hundred is bounded on the north by Fawsley hundred; on the east by Towcester and Cleve hundreds; on the south by part of Buckinghamshire, an isolated portion of Oxfordshire (Lillingston Lovell), and Sutton hundred; and on the west by Wardon hundred.

It comprises the parishes and hamlets of ASHBY CANONS (including ADSTON); BLAKESLEY (including BLAKESLEY WOODEND, part of FOXLEY, KIRBY, and SEWELL); BRADDEN; MAIDFORD; MORTON PINKENEY; NORTON, GREENS (including SILVESTON with part of LUFFIELD, and WHITLEBURY); PLUMPTON; SLAPTON; and WEDON PINKENEY or St. LOYS (including WESTON by WEDON).

In the Saxon certificate of hundreds in this county between the death of Edward the confessor and the accession of William the conqueror, it is stated there were in the hundred of "uoxle" or voxle, evidently for Foxley, an hundred hides, as in the days of king Edward; whereof sixteen hides were rated (or taxed); thirty hides were in-land (or demesne); one and twenty hides were the king's own land; and the remaining thirty-three hides, nearly one-third of the whole, were waste^e.

This hundred occurs in the domesday survey under the varied orthography of Foxlea, Foxhela, Foxleu, Foxle, Foxesle, Foxlea, Foxeslea, Foxele, and Foxeslau.

The fee of this hundred remained in the crown till the reign of Richard 1, when it was granted with the manor of Norton to *Baldwin de Betun*^g, afterwards earl of Albemarle; and they have never since been disunited. By the inquiry after the death of sir *Henry Green* in 43 Edw. 3 (1369) this hundred was found to be held of the crown by the payment of 8s. yearly into the exchequer through the hands of the sheriff of the county^f.

The hundred courts and annual statute for hiring of servants are held indifferently at any place within the hundred, at the discretion and appointment of the high constable.

^a Antiq. Soc. MSS. No. 60.

^b Domesd. fo. 223b, &c.

^c Cotton. MSS. Vesp. E. xxi. fo. 95b.

^d Ibid. fo. 96.

^e Harlton MSS. Cart.

Antiq. E. E. 27.

^f Esc. 43 Edw. 3, n. 42.

ABSTRACT OF RETURNS OF CHARITABLE DONATIONS, &c. 1787-1788.

Ordered by the HOUSE OF COMMONS to be printed 1816.

Names of the Persons who gave the Charity.	When given, and whether by Will or Deed.	Description of the Charity, For what Purposes given, and whether in Land or Money.	In whom now vested.	Gross Amount of that given in Money.	Annual Produce of the Money.	Clear Annual Produce of that given in Land.
ADSTON. Jane Leeson	1646—Will	To the poor—Land	{ Jones, — Woodhull, Thomas Fleisher, and Others Corporation of the Sons of the Clergy }	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
- - -	-	For the benefit of Sons of the Clergy—Land	{ Corporation of the Sons of the Clergy }	-	-	0 10 0
BLAKESLEY. — Cleave Do	1637—Will Do—Do	For bread to the poor—Land To the poor Do	{ Henry Wight, Robert Gibbard, & Samuel Smith Henry Wight, Rect of Maidford & Bradon, & Vicar of Blakesley Bp. of Peterborough, Henry Wight, and Lucy Knightley }	-	-	3 10 0 7 15 0
William Foxley	1669	For a boys' grammar school—Land	{ Henry Wight, Rect of Maidford & Bradon, & Vicar of Blakesley Bp. of Peterborough, Henry Wight, and Lucy Knightley }	-	-	30 12 0
Catherine Le- vison	Will	To one poor widow—Money	{ Henry Wight, Rect of Maidford & Bradon, & Vicar of Blakesley Bp. of Peterborough, Henry Wight, and Lucy Knightley }	-	10 0 0	—
Do	Do	{ For apprenticing 2 children, 2 years out of 8, of this parish, and every 3d year of Wood End—Money	Do	-	13 6 8	—
- - -	Do	To the poor Do	Unknown	-	2 1 6	—
Jane Leeson	1646—Do	Do Do	{ Henry Wight, William Ives, and Thomas Woodhull }	-	1 0 0	—
BRADDEN. Robert Mathew	{ 1 Hen. 8 Deed	{ For payment of the King's Fifteenths; repairs of the church; the remainder, if any, to the poor—Land and Tenement }	{ William Baldwin, William Wright, Henry Fille, Thos. Smallbone, and Joseph Goodman }	-	-	26 0 0

NORTON HUNDRED.

Names of the Persons who gave the Charity.	When given, and whether by Will or Deed.	Description of the Charity, For what Purposes given, and whether in Land or Money.	In whom now vested.	Gross Amount of that given in Money.			Annual Produce of that given in Money.			Clear Annual Produce of that given in Land.		
				£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Jane Leeson	1646—Will	To the poor—Rent-charge	{ Lucy Knightley, Henry Wight, Wm. Henry Chauncy, Michael Woodhull, William Ives, Charles Fox, Samuel Blencowe, and Richard Kerby }	-	-	-	-	-	0	10	0	0
Rev. Rob. Porter	1739—Do	Do—Money	The parishioners	5	0	0	0	5	0	-	-	-
CANONS ASHEY.		None.	—	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GREENS NORTON.												
Thomas Caporn	1557—Unk.	To the poor—Rent-charge	William Elliott	-	-	-	-	-	0	2	4	-
Mrs. Leeson	Unk.—Will	Do—Land	{ Minister, Church- wardens, and Over- seers,	-	-	-	-	-	1	10	0	-
John Wilkins	1691—Unk.	Do—Money	-	10	0	0g	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rev. Mr. Ives	1693—Do	To 12 poor families—Rent-charge	William Ives	-	-	-	-	-	3	0	0	-
Joseph Sanders	1704—Do	For teaching one poor boy	-	-	-	2	10	0	-	-	-	-
George Savage	1706—Do	To the poor—Money	-	-	-	2	0	0g	-	-	-	-
MALDFORD.												
Commissioners of Inclosure	1778—Act of Parl.	Do—Land	Rector, Churchwardens, and Overseers	-	-	-	-	-	5	0	0	-
Unknown	Unknown	Do—Do	Rector & Churchwards	-	-	-	-	-	4	16	0	-
MORTON PINKNEY.												
Unknown	Unknown	For bread to the poor—Money	No trustees	200	0	0h	1	9	6	-	-	-
Thomas Plant	Do	For meat to the poor—Rent-charge	Joseph Fency	-	-	-	-	-	2	0	0	-
Jane Leeson	-	To poor widows—Rent-charge	{ Samuel Blencowe, Michael Woodhull, — Kirby, — Ives, & 8 Others }	-	-	-	-	-	1	0	0	-
Bridget Freeman	1779—Will	For bread to the poor—Rent-charge	{ Minister & Church- wardens }	110	0	0	-	-	10	0	0i	-
PLOMPTON.												
Jane Leeson	Will	To the poor—Rent-charge	Rev. Mr. Jones	-	-	-	-	-	0	10	0	-
Unknown	-	Do—Money	Benjamin Hill	5	0	0	-	-	0	4	0k	-
SILVERSTONE.												
Jane Leeson	Will	Do—Rent-charge	Rev. Mr. Jones	-	-	-	-	-	1	0	0	-
SLAFTON.												
Jane Leeson	1648—Will	Do—Do	Do	-	-	-	-	-	1	0	0	-
Mr. Knight	1640—Do	Do—Money	Robert Henson ¹	5	0	0	0	4	0	-	-	-
Hugh Alloway	1650—Do	Do—Do	Thomas Wright ¹	20	0	0	0	16	0	-	-	-
Thomas Knight	1723—Do	{ For teaching 3 poor children, and for books—Money }	{ Minister, Churchwardens, and Overseers }	5	0	0	0	5	0m	-	-	-
WESTON AND WEEDON.												
Mrs. Leeson	Will	To the poor—Land	Rev. John Jones	-	-	-	-	-	1	0	0	-
Commissioners of Inclosure	1773—Act of Parl.	Do Do	{ Minister, Churchwardens, and Overseers }	-	-	-	-	-	5	5	0	-
WHITTLEBURY.												
John Bryan	Unk.—Will	{ For gowns and shoes to 4 poor widows, and 10s. in money—Rent-charge }	James Horn	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Jane Leeson	Do—Do	To the poor	Rev. Mr. Jones	-	-	-	-	-	1	0	0	-
Mary Smart	-	Do—Money	-	-	-	-	1	0	0h	-	-	-
James Preston	-	Do—Do	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
John Mundy	Unk.—Will	For apprenticing one poor boy—Rent-charge	John Cook	-	-	-	-	-	5	0	0h	-
		For bread or meat, to the poor—Land	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	13	5p	-
WOOD END.												
Jane Leeson	-	To the poor—Money	{ Henry Knight, William Ives, and M. Woodhull }	-	-	-	0	10	0	-	-	-
From Bideford, Warwickshire	-	Do Do	Unknown	-	-	-	1	0	9	-	-	-
Catherine Levison	Will	To one poor widow—Money	{ Bp. of Peterborough, Henry Wight, and Lucy Knightley }	-	-	-	10	0	0	-	-	-
Do	Do	{ For apprenticing one poor boy one year out of three from this parish, and two years from Blakesley }	Do	-	-	-	6	13	4	-	-	-

¹ Laid out, some years ago, in purchasing wood.² £140 laid out in land; (£37 at interest produces £1.9s. 6d. per ann.) and £93 in purchasing two cottages for the use of the poor.³ Now in land, subject to taxes, repairs, &c. purchased with this and the £140 mentioned in note ². Both sums were laid out together in land. It produces £10 per annum, subject to taxes—14s. 0d. per annum.⁴ Now a bankrupt.⁵ The first Return says, the annual produce is £1. 10s.⁶ The first Return says, the annual produce is £1. 10s.⁷ The balance from the endowment of the free-school.⁸ Long since lost.⁹ During the continuance of a leasehold estate.

POPULATION TABLE.

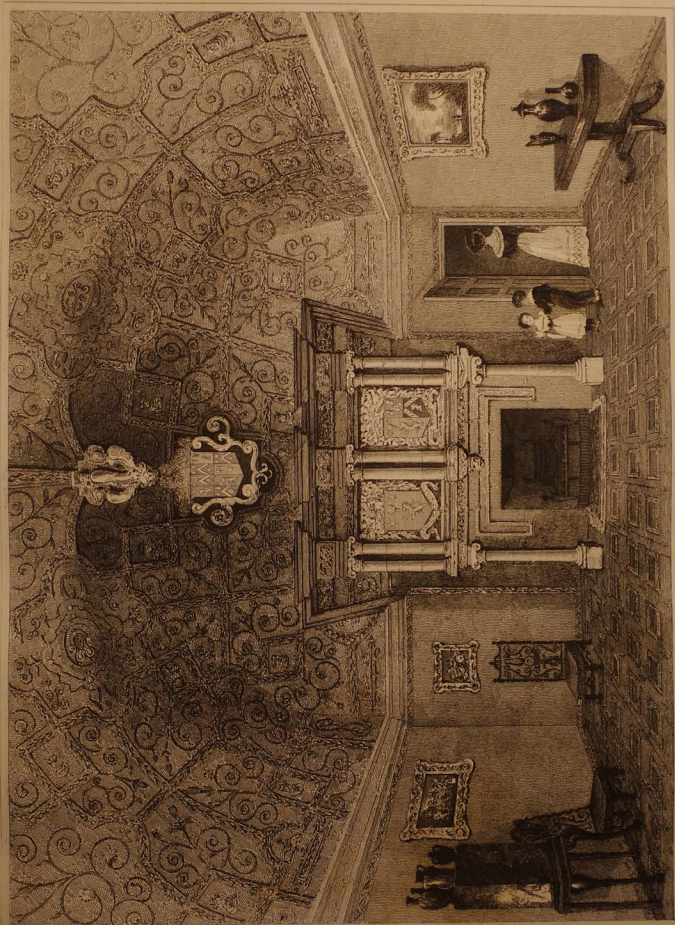
Of the Hundred of NORTON, extracted from the Returns to Parliament, 11 Geo. IV. (1831.)

PARISHES.	AREA.	HOUSES.					OCCUPATIONS.			PERSONS.		
	English Statute Acres.	Inhabited Houses.	Families.	Houses building.	Uninhabited.	Families employed in Agriculture.	Families employed in Trade.	Families not comprised in these Classes.	Males.	Females.	Total.	
Ashby Canons P.	1410	5	6	—	1	6	—	—	17	14	31	
Adston H.	1190	40	42	—	1	39	3	—	85	81	166	
Blakesley P.	2840	107	118	—	1	55	32	31	251	276	527	
Woodend H.		65	65	—	2	44	9	12	156	146	302	
Bradden P.	1000	33	37	—	—	25	4	8	86	79	165	
Maidford P.	1930	70	70	—	3	46	18	6	198	175	373	
Morton Pinkney P.	2460	121	129	—	5	84	23	22	287	294	581	
Norton, Greens P.	2490	146	170	—	4	116	28	26	360	411	771	
Silverstone H.	2110	202	205	1	5	133	46	26	464	483	947	
Whittlebury H.	2870	156	163	4	—	77	64	22	319	351	670	
Plumpton P.	1800	14	14	—	—	14	—	—	35	40	75	
Shapton P.	930	46	50	—	1	33	17	—	99	98	197	
Weedon Loys and West- ton P.	1050	110	117	—	3	78	30	9	281	247	528	
	22080	1115	1186	5	26	750	274	162	2638	2695	5333	

* This column, as forming a part of the official return, has been retained, though extremely erroneous, as will appear on a comparison with the statement of the number of acres given under the respective parishes from local enquiry and the inclosure awards.

NORTON HUNDRED.

BAPTISMS.				BURIALS.			MARRIAGES.	
Years.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.		
1821	68	99	167	41	69	110	1821	37
1822	92	99	191	31	39	70	1822	28
1823	71	71	142	38	48	86	1823	33
1824	80	90	170	39	46	85	1824	35
1825	84	80	164	43	56	99	1825	39
1826	87	70	157	55	73	128	1826	42
1827	83	78	161	46	53	99	1827	37
1828	84	75	159	42	56	98	1828	31
1829	89	82	171	53	54	107	1829	33
1830	87	69	156	58	62	120	1830	47



CANON'S ASHBY DRAWING ROOM.

Painted by the Rev. Mr. Henry Dingley, B.A.

ASHBY CANONS,

So called to distinguish it from other places of the same generic name in the county, contains about 1800 acres, and is all old inclosure. The whole of the Lordship is the property of the rev. sir Henry Dryden, bart. except a farm of about 270 acres called CROCKWELL, which in the time of Bridges was in the possession of Daniel Danvers, esq. by purchase from the lady Cave, and now belongs to William Parker, esq. of London. Preston Capes in Fawsley hundred forms the northern boundary of the parish; on the east and south a brook which rises in Wade's close, divides it from Adston and Morton Pinkney, and falls into the Charwell near Trafford-bridge; on the south-west it is bordered by Eydon in Warden hundred, and on the west by Woodford in the same hundred. The soil is principally red loam, occasionally intermixed with a good deal of clay; and nearly nine-tenths is in permanent pasture. A spring, north of the church, formerly called Norwell, supplies the mansion with water, and is described in the cartulary, and in more recent deeds since the dissolution, as having communicated with the monastery; to which the leaden pipes were conducted through the church under the pavement. There were anciently two water mills, both now disused; the monks' mill at the pond head, on the road to Eydon, and another in a field still called Watermill field towards Woodford, both on made pieces of water, and not on running brooks.

MANORIAL HISTORY. **WODHULL FEE.*** "*Ascebi*" was included in the Saxon estate of *Levenot*†, transferred by the conqueror to Walter Flandrensis, ancestor of the Wodhulls, under whom it was held at the domesday survey by one *Hugh*. It contained two hides and a half. The arable land was six carucates, one of which was in demesne, and three in the occupation of four servants, nine villeins, and three bordars; leaving two waste or unaccounted for. There were twelve acres of meadow. The whole had been rated at 40s. yearly, but was then doubled in value‡.

MANOR. Dugdale states on the authority of Glover, "that upon the conquest of England the Lord of *Wahull* [Walter Flandrensis] and *Stephen*, then Lord of *La Leie*, divided the fee of *Wahull* betwixt them; and that thereupon the Lord of *Wahull* had two parts and *Stephen* the third; viz. the one of them twenty knights' fees and the other ten. Also, that the lord of *Wahull* having a mind to keep the whole part of *Sagenho* (Bedfordshire), and the demesne of *Brocheburgh* [Brookborough in Bedfordshire], caused all the woods and plains to be measured by the perch. So likewise all *Northwood* and *Cherlewood* adjoining, and outed the inhabitants; allowing unto *Stephen de la Leie* his third part of the arable which those inhabitants had enjoyed; and the whole wood, then called *Cherlewood*, but afterwards *Northwood*§." No documentary references are adduced in support of this statement, but a connection between the parties is clearly substantiated by circumstantial evidence if an error be presumed in the christian name, and *Hugh* be substituted for *Stephen*; for there is little doubt that *Hugh*, the domesday sub-tenant of this estate, was the individual alluded to. *Hugh* held lands also under Walter Flandrensis in Bedfordshire, at Tornei [Turvey], "Podintoni" [Puddington], "Lalega" [la Leye or Thurleigh], "Estwiche" [Astick], and "Hanslau" [Henlow]*, in most of which places it will be seen in a subsequent page that the priory founded here had considerable grants from the family of *La Leye*; and there can be as little hesitation in identifying him with *Hugh Flandrensis* who held portions of "Podintone" [Puddington], "Hanewich" [Hinwick], and "Sernebroc" [Sharnbrook], as paramount lord†. The common surname of Flandrensis, when the distinction of a second name was extremely rare, implies a near degree of consanguinity, and sufficiently accounts for the compact between Walter and *Hugh*; which, however, instead of amounting to a partition of fees, was simply an assignment of the usufructuary interest to the latter, as is evident from the subsequent tenure of the lands. Walter and his descendants assumed the local appellation of *WAHULL* or *WODHULL*, and *Hugh* that of *LEGA* or *LA LEYE*. In the *Liber Niger*, or certificate of baronies, on levying the assessment for the marriage of Maud the king's daughter with Henry duke of Saxony in 14 Hen. 2 (1167), Walter de *Wahull* answered for thirty fees, ten of which were held under him by *Hugh de Lega*§ or *Leye*; and in the hydarium of the same reign *Stephen* was found to hold two hides and eight small virgates or yardlands in "*Esseby*" in the hundred of Norton, of the fee of *Hugh de Leye*¶. This *Stephen* was the reputed founder of the priory here, and left two sons, the eldest of whom succeeded him in the Bedfordshire estates, and the younger son Robert de *Leye* had Ashby, probably by feoffment from his brother. His great grandson Robert de *Leye*, conjointly with the prior, was returned in the *Testa de Nevill* about 27 Hen 3 (1242) to hold one fee in "*Esseby*" of the fees of *Saher de Wahull*‡; but both lines of the *Leyes* became extinct soon after; and the Bedfordshire and Ashby estates passed, though by what channel is not known, to the baronial family of Grey.

* Domesd. fol. 226b.
Vesp. E. xxii. fo. 95b.

† Dugl. Bar. i. p. 503.
‡ Test. Nev. fo. 117.

* Domesd. fo. 215b.

† Ibid. fo. 216.

§ Lib. Nig. i. p. 201.

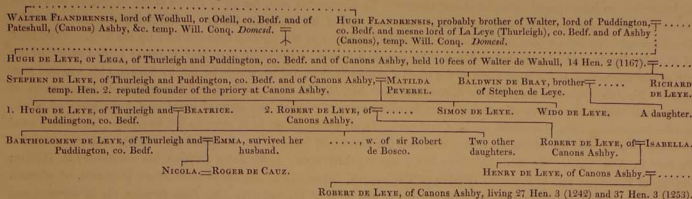
¶ Cotton. MSS.

‡ Vide TRENORD, vol. I. p. 711.

† Vide PLUMPTON.

LA LEYE, or LEGA, of CANONS ASHBY.

From Ashby Canons' Cartulary and public records.



In 24 Edw. 1 (1295) *John de Marshall* and the prior of Ashby held one fee in "Esseby" of Reginald de Grey, and *he* of John de Wodhull^a; in 7 Edw. 2 (1313) John de Marshall levied a fine of lands in Ashby Canons^a; and in 9 Edw. 2 (1315) was certified to be lord of the manor^b. In 3 Edw. 3 (1329) he surrendered to his superior lord, Sir Roger de Grey, all right and claim to the advowson of the priory of "Esseby Canonorum^c," and subsequently appears to have relinquished also his manorial interest to him. Reginald de Grey, the intermediate lord between Marshall and Wodhull, in 24 Edw. 1 had the barony of Wilton in Herefordshire, in right of his wife; and was succeeded by his son *John de Grey*, father, by his second wife, of *Roger de Grey*, to whom Marshall released his right. This Roger was the first *baron Grey of Ruthyn^d*. He died in 27 Edw. 3 (1353) seised (*int. al.*) of the manor of Ashby Canons, held of Isabella lady of Wodhull, leaving *Reginald baron Grey* his son and heir, aged thirty years^d; and the same year the escheator was commanded to take security from him for his relief (*int. al.*) of the manor of "Esseby Canons^e." He died in 12 Ric. 2 (1388) seised of this manor^f, which was assigned to Eleanor his widow in dower; who, dying in 19 Ric. 2 (1396), it descended to her son *Reginald, baron Grey of Ruthyn^g*, whose dispute with Owen Glendower as to the boundary of their respective estates, ending in a hostile collision, he was taken prisoner, and compelled to pay 10,000 marks (£6666. 13s. 4d.) for his ransom^h. To raise this sum his feeoffees sold the manor of Hartlegh in Kentⁱ, and not improbably this manor, as it is omitted in the subsequent inquisitions of the family; and I have vainly endeavoured to retrieve any trace of it, or of any lay property in Ashby, till the middle of the sixteenth century, when

John Dryden, gent. was in possession of an estate here, and a mansion house called "Wilkins Farm^j." A close named Nicol's-yard is expressly called "parcel of his inheritance^k," which would imply that he derived it by descent, though in the family pedigree his father and grandfather are both described of the county of Cumberland. Bridges, or rather his editor Whalley, has presumed that the Dryden property in Ashby was a portion of the Cope estate, and devolved upon Mr. *Dryden* in right of *Elizabeth* his wife^l. On this point he was mistaken; but his refutation of Anthony Wood's conjectures, and his early details of the family, are so complete and satisfactory, that I shall adopt them without alteration. "This *John Dryden*, or *Dreyden*, for so his name is sometimes written^m, was the eldest son of *David Dryden*, esq. by *Isabel*, the daughter of *William Nicholson*, of *Staffhill*, in the county of *Cumberland*.ⁿ Anthony Wood says "he was by profession a schoolmaster, and being learned and well acquainted with *Erasmus of Rotterdam*, that person was godfather to one of his sons, which is the reason why that christian name descends among the family of the *Dreydens* in that county (Northampton); some of whom," says he, "have gloried in it in my hearing." But the learned Antiquary must have been misinformed in this account. *Erasmus of Rotterdam* died in 1536; how then could he be godfather to *Erasmus* the son of *John Dryden^o*, who was not born till near twenty years after, and as we learn from Mr. Wood himself, took his degree of Bachelor of Arts in *Oxford*, on the seventeenth of June 1577. *Erasmus Dryden* was named after *Erasmus* the eldest son of sir *John Cope*, his mother's brother, who might possibly have his name from the famous *Erasmus of Rotterdam*. The story of his profession is no less improbable: nor is it likely that sir *John Cope* would have married his daughter to a person in low circumstances; and that she was married before his decease is evident from the inquisition taken upon Mr. Dryden's death, in the twenty-seventh year of Queen *Elizabeth^p*; for we learn from thence that *Erasmus*, his eldest son by this marriage, was at that time one and thirty years old, and consequently must have been born three or four years before sir *John Cope* died.^q

By *Elizabeth* his wife Mr. *Dryden* left issue five sons and four daughters. He died on the thirteenth of September 1584, and was succeeded by *Erasmus* his eldest son. The preamble to his will being somewhat extraordinary, we shall insert it in his own words: "I *John Dryden* of *Ashby* in the county of *Northampton*, gentleman, doe make and ordayne my last will and testament in manner and forme following: First, I bequeathe my soul to Almighty God my Creator, by the merits of whose son *JESUS CHRIST*, my only Saviour and Redeemer, I doe believe to be saved, the HOLY GHOST assuring my spirit that I am the elect of GOD; my body to be buried in the church of *Ashbie* aforesaid, near unto the place where sir *John Cope* is buried. And although I doe not allow of pomp in burials, yet for some reasonable considerations I will that the stone that I have already prepared shall be layde upon my grave, and my arms and my wyve's graven in brasse thereupon. Notwithstanding, if God call mee far from *Ashby*, then that yt be thought necessary to my executors to bring me thither, I refer that to their discretions, and soe doe I the place of my buriall, whether in the place aforesayde or in the churchyard, or elsewhere in the churche." In this

^a Cardigan MSS. "Nom. Vill." p. 65.^b Hatton MSS. "Fin. 7 Edw. 2."^c Cardigan MSS. "Nom. Vill." p. 8.^d Isham MSS.^e No. 37, "Place. 3 Edw. 3."^f Esc. 27 Edw. 3, n. 58.^g Rot. Orig. 27 Edw. 3, r. 2.^h Esc. 12 Ric. 2, n. 23.ⁱ Esc. 19 Ric. 2, n. 30.^j Dagd. Bar. i. p. 716.^k Dryden Evidences.^l Br. i. p. 224.^m Vincent's Visit. of North. MS. Harl.ⁿ Athen. Oxon. i. vol.^o Fast. p. 115, Ed. ult.^p Esc. anno 27 Eliz. n. 54 p. 2.^q Esc. anno 27 Eliz. n. 54 p. 2.^r Ibid.^s Vide YARLEY HASTINGS.

will be bequeaths to *George, John, Thomas, and Nicholas Dryden*, his sons, with *Elizabeth, Bridget, and Emma*, his daughters, two thousand four hundred pounds, to be divided equally amongst them, when they came to age, and chargeth them to be advised and counselled in their marriages by their mother and eldest brother, upon whom he lays an injunction to have special care and regard thereof. To *George* his son, he gives all his lands in *Adston*, and to all his other sons annuities of ten pounds during their lives out of his estate at *Ashby*. These legacies show that Mr. *Dryden* must have been a man of substance himself, independent of the fortune brought him by his lady. "The bulk of *John Cope's* estate descended to *Edward* his grandson", who in the eighteenth year of *James I.* died seised of the site of the monastery, and a large share of the monks' possessions in *Ashby*, which he left to *Erasmus* his son and successor. Sir *John Cope* had no estate in *Adston*, and yet^a Mr. *Dryden* died seised of one hundred and twenty acres of arable land there, sixty acres of meadow, one hundred acres of pasture, ten acres of wood, and forty acres of heath, besides messuages, tofts, dovecotes, gardens, and orchards, all which, as we have seen, he left to *George*, his second son.^b *Erasmus Dryden*, esq. his eldest surviving son, had the honour of being twice sheriff of the county, and was created a *Baronet* in Nov. 1619. He died 22d May 1632, leaving three sons; 1. Sir *John Dryden*, his successor; 2. *William Dryden* of *Farnford*; and 3. *Erasmus Dryden* of *Titchmarsh*, father of the celebrated poet *JOHN DRYDEN*, of whom a brief memoir will be introduced under *ALDWINGKLE*, the place of his nativity. Sir *John Dryden*, the 2d baronet, was sheriff in 1635, and elected one of the representatives of the county in 1640. Dying in 1658, he was succeeded by his eldest son, sir *Robert Dryden*, 3d baronet, who died in 1708, and devised *Ashby* and all his other estates to his second cousin *Edward Dryden*, esq. son of *Erasmus Dryden* of *Westminster*, a younger brother of the poet, but the title passed to sir *John Dryden*, 4th baronet, son of *William Dryden* of *Farnford*, second son of the first baronet; on whose decease in May 1710, the unsubstantial honour descended to sir *Erasmus Henry Dryden*, 5th baronet, the youngest son of the poet. "From the time his kinsman *Edward Dryden* became possessed of the family estate in 1708, *Erasmus Henry Dryden*, 6th baronet, father of *Edward Dryden*, esq. the devisee of the family estates, who dying in his father's lifetime, the title descended to his eldest son sir *John Dryden*, who became 7th baronet on the demise of his grandfather sir *Erasmus* in 1718; and in him the estates accompanied the title, from which, in the short space of ten years, three baronets and heirs-at-law were excluded. By his will in 1759, confirmed by a codicil in 1762, sir *John* devised all his estates to his wife, dame *Elizabeth*, for life, with remainder to his eldest niece *Elizabeth*, daughter of his youngest brother *Bevill Dryden*, esq. in tail male, who on the decease of lady *Dryden* in 1791 came into possession; and being then the wife of *John Turner*, esq. he, in pursuance of her uncle's will, took the name and arms of *DRYDEN* by royal license; was knighted during his sheriffship on the presentation of an address from the county in 1793; and elevated to a baronetcy in 1795. He died in April 1797^c, and was succeeded by his eldest son, sir *John Edward Turner Dryden*, second baronet of the new creation, on whose decease in Sept. 1818^d, the title devolved on his next brother, the rev. sir *Henry Dryden*, the third and present baronet; in whom the Northamptonshire estates are now (1833) vested.

DRYDEN, OF CANONS ASHBY, 1833.

From visitations, public records, *Dryden* evidences, parish registers of *Canons Ashby** and *Woodford*†, and other authorities.

Arms. Azure, a lion rampant, and in chief a sphere between two estoiles Or. Crest. On a wreath a demi lion rampant Azure, holding in his dexter paw a sphere Or.

WILLIAM DRYDEN, of Walton, co. Cumberland.

DAVID DRYDEN, of Staflle Hill, co. Cumb. = ISABEL, dau. of William Nicholson, of Staflle Hill, co. Cumb.

1. JOHN DRYDEN, of Canons Ashby, esq. ob. 3 Sept. 26 Eliz. (1584). 2. THOMAS = Q. CATHERINE, dau. of sir John Cope, of Canons Ashby, occurs 2 July, 3 & 4 P. & M. 1557. 3. EDWARD DRYDEN, of Mid. Temp. Lond. and of Adston, gent. 27 Eliz. (1586), and 33 Eliz. (1591). 4. GEORGE DRYDEN, of Mid. Temp. Lond. gent. 27 Eliz. (1586), and 33 Eliz. (1591). 5. JOHN DRYDEN, of Plymouth, co. Devon, gent. 18 Jac. (1620). 6. THOMAS DRYDEN, of Plymouth, co. Devon, gent. 18 Jac. (1620). 7. STEPHEN DRYDEN, of Bulwick, 1615. 8. NICHOLAS DRYDEN, of Mid. Temp. Lond. gent. 27 Eliz. (1586), and 33 Eliz. (1591). 9. JACOB DRYDEN, of Mid. Temp. Lond. gent. 27 Eliz. (1586), and 33 Eliz. (1591). 10. MARY, dau. of sir Robert Dryden, of Canons Ashby, esq. ob. 3 May, 34 Eliz. (1592). 11. ANNE, ISABEL, w. of Thomas Warwick, of co. Cumb. FRANCES, ELIZABETH.

DAVID DRYDEN.

Vide ADSTON.

1. ANTHONY DRYDEN, living 16 Eliz. (1574), dead s. p. 27 Eliz. (1584). 2. SIR ERASMUS DRYDEN, of Canons Ashby, 1st bart. born 20 Dec. 1553, ^a 21. Esc. 27 Eliz. sheriff co. North. 41 Eliz. and 19 Jac. BARONET, Pat. 16 Nov. 17 Jac. (1619), ob. 22 May 1632. 3. EDWARD DRYDEN, of Mid. Temp. Lond. and of Adston, gent. 27 Eliz. (1586), and 33 Eliz. (1591). 4. GEORGE DRYDEN, of Mid. Temp. Lond. gent. 27 Eliz. (1586), and 33 Eliz. (1591). 5. JOHN DRYDEN, of Plymouth, co. Devon, gent. 18 Jac. (1620). 6. THOMAS DRYDEN, of Plymouth, co. Devon, gent. 18 Jac. (1620). 7. STEPHEN DRYDEN, of Bulwick, 1615. 8. NICHOLAS DRYDEN, of Mid. Temp. Lond. gent. 27 Eliz. (1586), and 33 Eliz. (1591). 9. JACOB DRYDEN, of Mid. Temp. Lond. gent. 27 Eliz. (1586), and 33 Eliz. (1591). 10. MARY, dau. of sir Robert Dryden, of Canons Ashby, esq. ob. 3 May, 34 Eliz. (1592). 11. ANNE, ISABEL, w. of Thomas Warwick, of co. Cumb. FRANCES, ELIZABETH. 12. MARY, ob. 13. ELIZABETH, dau. of Francis Foxley, of Foxley, esq. ob. 7 Dec. 15 Jac. (1617). 14. MARY, ob. 15. ELIZABETH, dau. of John Pickers, of Herts, mar. 18 Jac. (1620). 16. MARY, ob. 17. ELIZABETH, dau. of John Pickers, of Herts, mar. 18 Jac. (1620). 18. MARY, ob. 19. ELIZABETH, dau. of John Pickers, of Herts, mar. 18 Jac. (1620). 20. MARY, ob. 21. ELIZABETH, dau. of John Pickers, of Herts, mar. 18 Jac. (1620). 22. MARY, ob. 23. ELIZABETH, dau. of John Pickers, of Herts, mar. 18 Jac. (1620). 24. MARY, ob. 25. ELIZABETH, dau. of John Pickers, of Herts, mar. 18 Jac. (1620). 26. MARY, ob. 27. ELIZABETH, dau. of John Pickers, of Herts, mar. 18 Jac. (1620). 28. MARY, ob. 29. ELIZABETH, dau. of John Pickers, of Herts, mar. 18 Jac. (1620). 30. MARY, ob. 31. ELIZABETH, dau. of John Pickers, of Herts, mar. 18 Jac. (1620). 32. MARY, ob. 33. ELIZABETH, dau. of John Pickers, of Herts, mar. 18 Jac. (1620). 34. MARY, ob. 35. ELIZABETH, dau. of John Pickers, of Herts, mar. 18 Jac. (1620). 36. MARY, ob. 37. 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THE PRIORY

^v Ashby Cartulary, in possession of R. Orlebar, esq. of Henwick, co. Bedf. fo. 1.



Drawn by G. Moon.

Engraved by W. Wilson.

CASTLE ASHEY.

Described by Spencer Jones, Mayor of Northampton.

Herard his dapifer, and William his son, and Siredon and Godid his brother, and Reginald Pictore de Dunstaple, and his sons William and Robert and Malveisin, and Ralph the scribe of Bedford, and the lady whom he most valued; and in further confirmation placed a sword upon the altar in the presence of the parish, and called all the parish to witness the donation, and to prevent future dispute sealed the charter with his seal.⁷ By a third deed, he gave *all* the church of "Podintona," with pertinencies, and 7s. in the mill of "Snelston" (=Bedfordshire). Matilda Peverell, wife of Stephen de Leye, confirmed her husband's grant of Puddington church which he held of her dower, as freely as he gave it, quit from all customs towards them and their heirs, or towards the king for scutage, danelgeld, and murage; and from all other customs towards the king and all men, except that 12d. for two virgates which is rendered to the sheriff yearly; and in addition, granted the tithes of their house of "Podinton" in bread, beer, fish, and cheese; and their tithes of wood, if any should be sold.⁸ Baldwin de Bray, brother of Stephen de Leye, certified to sir Hugh de Leye his lord, that he had sold to his nephew Robert de Leye, for five marks, all his land in "Esseby," which he had of the grant of his lord Stephen de Leye, and Hugh de Leye his heir; except two virgates and ten acres in one part, and ten acres in another part, which he held for the marriage of his daughter, but if she did not marry, then to the church of "Esseby," quit of all services.⁹ Robert de Leye granted this land to the priory by the description of eleven virgates in "Esseby," which he purchased from his uncle Baldwin, saving the service to sir Hugh and his heirs.¹⁰ This entry occurs in folio 4 of the cartulary; and the one which will be next submitted to the reader furnishes a proof that the monks inserted their evidences promiscuously, as in the present instance the confirmation *precedes* the original grant; for in folio 2 Hugh de Leye confirms to the canons the donation of Robert his brother, viz. eleven virgates in "Essebi," which he purchased from Baldwin their uncle; also two virgates of his land of the grant of his father, for which said eleven virgates and two virgates the canons shall do to him and his heirs the service of half a fee, and as much service as belongs to two virgates of a knight's fee, which consists of twenty-two virgates; and also two virgates in the said vill of a former donation, quit of all service, with a fish-pond and mill, twenty-six acres in the field, and the culture or inclosure of "Segeho."¹¹ The same Robert de Leye, by another deed, granted two virgates and twenty-two acres in "Essebi 4;" and at the request of prior Alexander and the canons, who gave him 4s. for their manumission, he released and made free three of his men at Puddington, viz. Ingeram, Hugh, and Ingannam, and their sisters, sons, and daughters, so that they might go whither they pleased.¹² Robert de Leye, son of Robert de Leye, gave the monks license to build a mill and make a mill-pond in Ashby; confirmed his father's donation of Baldwin de Bray's lands; released all claims, exactions, and pleas, which he had against them for a certain custom called churchscot, due to the church of Norton yearly, viz. a certain portion of corn and 4d.;¹³ and granted with his body for burial there, due a virgate with a message, toft and croft, and meadow in "Essebi," and his man Godwin, with all his chattels.¹⁴ Henry de Leye, son of this Robert, gave parts of certain of his meadows in "Essebi," and license to enclose them with a ditch, and to repair their mill, and clean out their mill-pond.¹⁵ Robert de Leye, son of Henry, granted a virgate in "Essebi," and an acre of land, viz. half an acre upon "Brodehull," near the land of the nuns of Sewardsey, and the other half near the land of the canons;¹⁶ and in 37 Hen. 3 (1253) entered into an agreement with Adam the prior, by which he granted him license to enclose a spring in "Esseby," called "Norwelle," and turn the watercourse from it to the monastery, and repair it as often as necessary; and also released all claim to common of pasture, in the culture between their toft and the culture called "Aylesbreth;" and the prior quitclaimed to him the tithes of his pasture lands and the croft between his mansion and the mill belonging to the monks, saving to them the tithes of garb and hay of the said croft when sowed or mowed.¹⁷

To return to Hugh de Leye, eldest son of Stephen. He granted the church of "Leya" [Thurleigh in Bedfordshire], and that half virgate in "Podinton" which Osbern held, and another half virgate of his demesne;¹⁸ confirmed his father's donation of "Podinton" church; and 7s. in the mill of "Snelston"; and subsequently granted the mill of "Podinton," with a message, land, meadow, and pasture as William the miller held it, together with the miller himself, his wife, children, and chattels; in return for which the prior and canons released to him the 7s. they had in Snelston mill, but at the petition of Beatrice his wife, who had the mill in dower, he gave them 2s. yearly out of it to purchase fish in lent.¹⁹ Bartholomew de Leye his son confirmed the grant of "Leye" church,²⁰ and the half virgate in "Podinton";²¹ but is silent as to that church. Emma de Leye his widow, gave the dovecoat in "Podinton" which she purchased of John, son of William de Leye, in her free widowhood, with toft and croft and other pertinencies, for her health, and the souls of her husband Bartholomew de Leye and Nicola her daughter, and for the support of a lamp to burn night and day in the chapel of St. Bartholomew of "Esseby," where their bodies rest; with warranty of her grant against all men for ever; but if it should so happen that she and her heirs were not able to warrant, she gave to the canons in exchange in "Hoingford," or in "Gillinge" [Heningford and Gidding in Huntingdonshire] of her inheritance to the value of 7s.²²

Benefactions to the priory have been already noticed under Byfield,²³ Culworth,²⁴ Dodford,²⁵ Eydon,²⁶ Grimsbury,²⁷ Helmdon,²⁸ Litchborough,²⁹ Middleton Chenduit,³⁰ Preston Capes,³¹ Sulgrave,³² Wappenham,³³ and Woodford;³⁴ and its possessions in Adstons, Blakesley, Ecton, Maidford, Morton Pinkeney, Northampton, Plumpton, Pytheley, Sewell, and Wedon and Weston will be particularised in the respective places.

The grants in Puddington have been introduced amongst the donations of the Leye family. Henwick is a member of that parish; and there having been a controversy between the prior and canons of Ashby, and Hugh de Pabenham, respecting the chantry chapel of "Hynewyk," after much altercation it was amicably agreed, that the prior and convent should allow divine service to be celebrated in the chapel to Hugh and his heirs with their families as heretofore accustomed, on condition that he and his heirs pay to the canons 8s. yearly.³⁵ Hugh de Pateshull, of Bolnhurst

⁷ Ashby Cartulary, in possession of R. Orlebar, esq. of Henwick, co. Bedf. fo. 1. ⁸ Ibid. fo. 194. ⁹ Ibid. fo. 3. ¹⁰ Ibid. fo. 4. ¹¹ Ibid. fo. 2.

¹² Ibid. fo. 6. ¹³ Ibid. fo. 294. ¹⁴ Ibid. fo. 3. ¹⁵ Ibid. fo. 4. ¹⁶ Ibid. fo. 5. ¹⁷ Ibid. fo. 7. ¹⁸ Ibid. fo. 9. ¹⁹ Ibid. fo. 10.

²⁰ Ibid. fo. 181. ²¹ Ibid. fo. 194. ²² Ibid. fo. 195. ²³ Ibid. fo. 203. ²⁴ Vol. I. p. 446. ²⁵ Vol. I. p. 607. ²⁶ Vol. I. p. 357. ²⁷ Vol. I. p. 304.

²⁸ Vol. I. p. 749. ²⁹ Vol. I. p. 603. ³⁰ Vol. I. p. 407. ³¹ Vol. I. p. 633. ³² Vol. I. p. 419. ³³ Vol. I. p. 517. ³⁴ Vol. I. p. 737.

³⁵ Vol. I. p. 634. ³⁶ Cartulary, fo. 186.

in Bedfordshire, had five sons, Roger, William, Robert, Simon, and John, who, surviving his father and brothers, conveyed a moiety of his father's lands to Sir John de Grey¹, for the service of one pair of white gloves yearly of the value of one penny^s. John de Pateshull, being afterwards impleaded by John de Everton and Eleanor his wife the daughter and heir of Roger de Pateshull the eldest brother, quit-claimed to them for £10^l; and sir John de Grey, being also impleaded by them, gave them 8 marks for a release of their right to forty-six acres in Bolnhurst². John and Eleanor, reciting that sir John de Grey, formerly lord of Leye, had lands and a moiety of a certain wood in "Bolnhurst," of the gift of John de Pateshull, rendering 1d. yearly, and that John de Pateshull had released his right to them, and that sir John de Grey by his last will had devised the said lands and wood to the prior and convent of Ashby, confirmed the donation³. By another deed, they granted all their lands in Bolnhurst, which formerly belonged to Hugh Pateshull, Eleanor's grandfather, with homages, services, and rents⁴; and in 6 Edw. 1 (1278) levied a fine to Eli, prior of Ashby, of a messuage, four acres, and an acre of wood, and 5s. 4d. yearly rent in "Bollynhurst," and further agreed, that all the tenements which Robert de Brok and Eustachia his wife held in dower of the inheritance of Eleanor in the said vill, should, after the decease of Eustachia, remain to the priory⁵. Ralph, son of Thomas Trel of Willden, remitted to the priory the 10s. yearly rent, payable to him for the lands and tenements which John de Everton and Eleanor his wife held of him in "Bolnhurst"⁶.

Richard Fitz-Wale, of Eydon, and Matilda his wife, granted to this priory, in which they intended to be buried, the church of Puttenham [in Hertfordshire], with pertinencies, viz. sixteen acres in one field, and sixteen acres in the other field, and four acres of meadow, with all the moor under their garden⁷. Matilda, daughter of William de Puttenham, for the soul of her husband Richard Fitz-Wale, confirmed the above grant⁸; and in 1278 (6 Edw. 1), it was again confirmed by John Fitz-Wale de Puttenham⁹. This advowson was, however, in 2 Edw. 2 (1308) alienated by the prior and canons to the bishops of Lincoln in perpetuity¹⁰.

In Oxfordshire, the priory held in Hanwell half a mark yearly rent out of the mill, of the gift of sir Warine de Wernoun¹¹, and the mill itself of the gift of his son Ralph¹²; in Steeple Aston 5s. yearly rent from Matthew de Romeli¹³, and 4s. yearly rent from Jordan, son of Alured de Horile¹⁴; and in Epwell 3s. yearly rent from Robert de Bussy¹⁵; and another 3s. yearly rent^s from Geoffrey Gorbin, being the service of half a virgate there, which Roger Danvers, with consent of Robert Danvers, gave him¹⁶. In Warwickshire, six acres and a half in Compton Murdak, of the gift of Henry de Murdak, son of Roger Murdak, of Hogecot¹⁷ [Edgecot]; and half a virgate at Toft in Donechurch, rendering 12d. yearly to the hospital of Jerusalem, of the gift of Hamon de Bidun, son of Hamon de Bidun, clerk of "Donechirche," with other smaller donations there¹⁸; and a tenement in Warwick of the gift of Henry de Buckebrooc, confirmed by Simon Bagot¹⁹; and in Lincolnshire, 2s. yearly rent in Stamford from Reginald de Bretun, son of Simon de Ketune, out of his burgage, which he had of the gift of sir Richard de Atteneston²⁰.

Baldwin de Betun, earl of Albemarle, for the souls of himself and Hawise his wife, quit-claimed and released to the prior and canons of Ashby 16d. which ought to be paid out of thirteen virgates in that vill for a certain custom of his hundred of Norton called Wardsilver, saving to him and his heirs the other customs belonging to his said hundred²¹.

In 3 Edw. 1 (1274) Emmeline de Lacy, countess of Ulster, in her free widowhood, for the health of the souls of herself, her lord sir Stephen Longspe [her first husband], her father and mother, and all her ancestors and successors, quit-claimed to the prior and canons of Ashby, all suit which they were accustomed to do to her hundred of Sutton near Banbury, for their lands and tenements in the said hundred in Wappenham, Cotes (Culworth), and Grimsbury; and the prior and canons granted for themselves and their successors, that her name and the names of her lords [husbands] sir Hugh de Lacy and sir Stephen de Longspe, her father Walter de Ridesford, her mother Annora, and her daughters Ela and Emmeline, should be placed in their martyrology, and their anniversaries celebrated on the days of their deaths for ever²².

In 29 Edw. 1 (1300), the prior and canons obtained a royal confirmation of their lands, profits, and privileges²³; and in 13 Edw. 2 (1320) they had a grant of free warren in "Ashby, Atteneston [Adston], Gildenmorton [Morton Pinkeney], Plumpton, and Blacovesley"²⁴. At an early undated period there were several exchanges of small portions of land in Ashby, and an agreement respecting tithes between the priories of Ashby and Sewardley²⁵. In 17 Edw. 2 (1323) it was found by inquisition *ad q. d.* that it would not be to the damage of the king or any other person, if William de St. John enfeoffed the prior and convent of Ashby of six messuages and four virgates in Ashby, in exchange for ten messuages and seven virgates, and six acres of meadow and two of pasture, in Plumpton²⁶. This estate in Ashby appears to have been soon after granted to William de Pinkeney, of Morton, and re-granted by him to the nuns of Sewardley²⁷; for in 2 Edw. 3 (1328), by another inquisition the same William de St. John had licence to enfeoff the prioress of Sewardley of his manor of Estneston [Easton Neston] in exchange for six messuages and four virgates in Ashby²⁸. In the following year, the prior of Ashby was summoned by writ of *quo warranto*, to shew by what right he claimed free warren in the places specified in the grant of 13 Edw. 2, when he pleaded the said grant, and the jury returned that the privilege had been legally exercised without interruption; and that none of those vills were within the bounds of the king's forest, but that all the lands in Plumpton had been alienated, except a certain wood which remained in seisin of the prior²⁹.

In 1329 (3 Edw. 3), on the accession of Walter de Neynruit to the office of prior, an inventory was taken of the moveable goods, as well in the priory as at the respective manors of Atmeston, Morton, and Podyngton. Of this document, now preserved in the augmentation office, the following is a concise epitome:

¹ Cartulary, fo. 184. ² Ibid. fo. 207. ³ Ibid. fo. 1792. ⁴ Ibid. fo. 207. ⁵ Ibid. fo. 194. ⁶ Ibid. fo. 171. ⁷ Ibid. fo. 185.
⁸ Ibid. fo. 92. ⁹ Ibid. fo. 91. ¹⁰ Rot. Fin. 2 Edw. 2, m. 6. ¹¹ Cartulary, fo. 81. ¹² Ibid. fo. 82. ¹³ Ibid. fo. 159. ¹⁴ Ibid. fo. 159.
¹⁵ Ibid. fo. 162. ¹⁶ Ibid. fo. 192. ¹⁷ Ibid. fo. 191. ¹⁸ Ibid. fo. 147. ¹⁹ Ibid. fo. 209. ²⁰ Ibid. fo. 210, 211. ²¹ Ibid. fo. 81.
²² Ibid. fo. 151. ²³ Ibid. fo. 6. ²⁴ Mon. Ang. 2, p. 292. ²⁵ Pat. 29 Edw. 1, m. 17. ²⁶ Cart. 13 Edw. 2, m. 8. ²⁷ Cartulary, fo. 12 to 15.
²⁸ Inq. ad q. d. 17 Edw. 2, p. 173. ²⁹ Rec. 2 Edw. 3, p. 2, n. 83. ³⁰ Quo warrant. 3 Edw. 3, r. 3 d.

ASHBY.

AT THE GRANGE OF ASSE [ASHBY]. A rick of wheat containing 99 quarters, and half a rick of wheat, and a stack of rye of 59 quarters.

AT ANOTHER GRANGE. Two ricks of barley of the respective quantities of 91½ quarters, and 98½ quarters; also a rick of old barley containing 95 quarters and 6 bushels.

AT THE OUTER GRANGE. Three ricks of pease, the first being 95 quarters and 5 bushels; the second, standing near it, 24 quarters and 1 bushel; and the third, near the dovecote, 30 quarters. Winter corn 75 quarters and 6 bushels. Eight horses with 4 carts, and all their harness. Nine ploughs with 26 oxen and 18 steers for them.

IN STOCK AT THE SHEEP COTE. Six cows, 3 heifers, 6 calves, 140 hoggrell sheep and wethers, 101 lambs, 6 boars, 7 sows, 26 pigs, and 18 sucking pigs.

AT THE MILL. Four horses, whereof 3 were old, and 5 ploughs complete with iron work.

IN THE CARPENTER'S SHOP. Two new pairs of wheels, and timber for 3 pairs, 18 winter and summer ploughs in bad condition, 16 plough-beams, 20 shutte boards, 45 skips, 14 axletrees, 9 yokes, and 6 bows for plough oxen, and 11 cratches.

IN THE GRANARY. Three cartropes, 5 sacks, 13 [illegible] for the windmill, a canvas winnowing cloth, an iron-bound measure, 4 iron forks, 5 iron-bound flails, some other articles illegible, and 2 shovels.

IN THE SMITH'S SHOP. Two pair of bellows, a great anvil, 2 small anvils, 2 large hammers, and a small one, a hammer for nail-making, an iron for the same use, 2 iron instruments for cutting iron, 5 small articles [illegible] for shoeing horses, a pallet, a prickel, and a pair of tongs.

IN THE BAKEHOUSE. Four troughs for dough, and a bolting chest.

IN THE BREWHOUSE. Two leads, 3 great vats, 4 small ones made out of tuns, 15 tubs, and 3 buckets.

IN THE CELLAR. Five great tons and a pipe.

IN THE FURNACE KITCHEN. Four brass pots, a lead with a brass bottom, a brass pot without feet for a furnace.

IN THE GREAT KITCHEN. Three brass pots for the convent food, a gallon picher, a pottel picher, 2 quart pitchers, a large dish, 2 other dishes, and 3 smaller ones, a round gridiron, an iron trivet, a great mortar with pestle, and a grater.

AT THE MANOR OF ATNESTON.

A cart without iron with 2 horses and their harness, 2 ploughs with 4 oxen, 4 steers, a brood mare with 2 colts, and an heifer.

IN THE KITCHEN THERE. A pot and a pan both of brass.

AT THE MANOR OF PODYNGTON.

A plough with only one ox for it, and 2 steers for the plough.

IN THE MANOR HOUSE [AULA]. A bason, an ewer, and a great dining table.

IN THE KITCHEN. Three brass pots with broken feet, one containing 7 gallons, another 2 gallons, and the third one gallon, a pottel picher, a 2 gallon brass pan, an iron article [illegible], an axe, and a pick-axe.

IN THE BREWHOUSE. Four vats, 3 coolers, a barrel of 30 gallons, a tub, and 2 barrels of 16 gallons.

IN THE BAKEHOUSE. A lead holding 60 gallons.

Winter corn sown in the fields there 19 acres, dragget 20 acres, and pease 10 acres.

In the prior's stable at Asheby, 2 horses not before mentioned.

BONA PRIORIS DE ASHEBY CANONICOR'.

[Norwich Taxation, 38 Hen. 3 (1254). Cott. MSS. Nero, D. x. fo. 191.]

Eccia de Asheby Canonicor' - - - -	xv marc.	Prior de Asheby Canonicor' het in Asheby	li. s. d.
Eccia de Coleworth - - - -	xx marc.	& Pliton in decanat' Brakle	xvi xvi ivob.
Pore' ejusdem in ead' - - - -	xl s.	Iſm in Lichebarwe	xx
Eccia de Morton - - - -	xv marc.	Sſm tēpaſ xvij li. xvi s. iv d. ob.	
Pens' in eadm - - - -	xl s.		
Sſm spualis xxxvij l. vi s. viij d.			

TAXATIO ECCLESIASTICA P. NICHOLAI IV. A.D. 1291 (20 Edw. 1).

ASHEBY CANONIC' PRIORAT'.

DIOC. LINC.	li. s. d.		li. s. d.
(NORTH.)			
Porcio in Eccia de Culwerthe - - -	ij	Idem h't in eisdem ad pitane' mona-	i vi
Pens. in Eccia de Morton - - -	ij	chor' de redd' - - - -	
in Lithebaſ [Litcheborough] de redd ad	i	(OXON.)	
pitane' - - - -		in Hanewell in uno molend' - - -	i xiiij iv
in (Bifeld) Planton [Plumpton] & Mor-		in Stepel Aston de redd' - - -	ix
ton, Weston, Blakull [Blakesley], Mid-		(BEDFORD.)	
dleton, Wapham, Atteneston, Cotes	xi vij	in Bollehurst & Lega [Thurleigh] in	ij xvi iſ
[in Culworth], Sulgrave, Helmeden,		t'ris redd' & fruct' arbor' - - -	
in Cris, redd, mol', pita, pascuis -		in Podington and Wynewyk [Hen-	ij
Idem h't in eisdem fruct' greg' & a't'al	iv iij iv	wick] in t'ris reddit' mol' - - -	
		[Summa xxxli. xivs. x d.]	

N.B. The churches belonging to religious houses are not specified in this taxation.

VALOR ECCLESIASTICUS, TEMP. HEN. VIII.

[Abstract of Return 26 Hen. 8 (1535.) First Fruits' Office.]

BRAKLEY DECANAT'

ASHBY CANONIC' PRIORAT'

JOHNES COLLES, PRIOR INCUMDENS ID'M.

VALET IN TEMPORALIA.

Scit' dom' p'orat' cum terr' d'nicat.
 Exit' et p'ic' gardin' stagnoy & boscoy in-
 fra scitum p'orat' ad lxviii. viiid. p' ann'
 ac terr' p'toz pasc' pastur' d'nicat' ad
 xxviii. p' annu simul in man' & occu-
 pac'one ipsius p'oris & convent' ejus-
 dm loci & nunq'm p'ius arrent' tamen
 p' vis' inquis' & scrutat' om' coñiss'
 q'm p' xij^{em} hoies hoc jurat' valuat'
 viz. ad sumam - - -

Ricō Knyghtley p'cert' terr' vij
 Ricō Gren p' sect' cur' de
 Sharrrebroke (Sharn-
 brook, co. Bedf.) ij
 Dñis de Podington p' curs' }
 aque p' rector' } xvij
 & div's aliis dñis p' red-
 dit' exeunt' de terr' &
 tenē sup'us on'at' } xiv vi

FEOD' OFFIC.

Feod' Edmūdi Knyghtley
 capital' sen' domus prio-
 rat' p'dci p' annū }
 Feod' Henr' Warde bathi }
 & collect' cert' reddit' }
 p'dict' p' annū } xl } iv

SOLUC'ONE PENC'ONU'

Penc' annu' solut' epo Lincoln & aliis
 pson' p' annū videlit' }
 P'dicō epo Lincoln p' penc'
 exeunt' de ecclis de } xvij viij
 Ashby xlii. Culw' the
 xs. et Revely via. viiid.
 Archidia' North'mpton p'
 sinodal' & peur' exeunt' } xxxv viob' q'
 de ecclis p'dcis }
 Vicar' ecclie de Podington
 p' annua penc' ejusdm } xx
 p' compos'
 Monialib' de Littlemore
 p' penc' annū } xij iv
 xv x vij ob' q'
 Et reman' cxii vij iv q'

PENC'ONES.

D' quibz in elimos' dat' vijem pau-
 pibz supvenient' in die Pasche annūm
 ex fundat' Radi Leicester' benefact' hu-
 jus dom' - - - } xx
 Et in elimos' dat' xij^{em} paupibz in festo
 Purificat' Beat' Marie iij s. i v d. & festo
 Pentecost' ex fundat' Petri Wodh'm
 b'fact' dom' p'dci iij s. i v d. - - - } vi vij
 Et in elimos' dat' xij paupibz in festo
 Trinitat' iij s. i v d. & die Nativ' Beat'
 Marie iij s. i v d. ex fundat' Henr' Pynk-
 ney benefact' dom' p'or' p'dci } vi vij
 Et in elimos' dat' iv paupibz div's festis
 anni videlit' cuilibet eoz i d. p' alibz Jo-
 his Littleley & vis' eius p' a'm - - - } xv
 Et in elimos' dat' div's paupibz in festo n'ois
 Jhu ad anniv's With Smythe With At-
 water nup' epoz Lincoln, Ricō Randall
 nup' prior' dom' p'or' ac Johis Thoro-
 ton benefact' ejusdm p' annū put patz
 in libro registr' reman' in die p'orat'
 Et in elimos' dat' div's paupibz p'm mo-
 rant' q'm ex'neis supvenient' in diebz
 anniv'sar' Thom' Tresh'm & Thom' Bas-
 tean nup' canonicoz domus p'orat' p'dci
 ac benefact' ejusdem p' annū - - - } xvij viij
 Et reman' ultra cixli. i v d. q'
 Xma xli. vij s. ob.

SPRU'ALIA

RECTOR CU' PENC'

Firm' Rector' cum Pencōibz div'saz Eccliaz
 p' annū videlit.

Rector de Culwothe di-
 miss' Withmo Sawdars } xi vij
 Rector de Podington di-
 miss' Withm' Burton } vij
 Penc' ecclie de Reyley } x
 [Thurleigh]. } xli x iv
 Penc' ecclie de Morton } v xij iv
 Penc' ecclie de Asheby } cx iv
 cxvii li. xixs.

Inde in

Mis' & Rer's'

RESOLUC' REDDIT'

Resoluc'o reddit' dno Regi & div's aliis pson' videlit.
 Dicto dno Regi ut ducat'
 suo Lancaster' p' terr' in } iv
 Helmeden - - - }
 Abbi & convent' de War-
 don p' maño de Ashby } cvi vij
 Thoni Vaus dno Harrow-
 don ad lundr' suū de } vij iv i
 Norton p' hedsilver sect'
 cur' & auxil' vic' - - - } xv

- - -

COMPUT' MINISTRORUM DOMINI REGIS, TEMP. HEN. VIII.

[Abstract of Roll 28 Hen. 8. Augmentation Office.]

PRIORATUS CANONICORUM DE ASHBY NUPER DISSOLUT'.

COM. NORTH.		li.	s.	d.	COM. NORTH.		li.	s.	d.
Ashby Canons	Reddit' ten' ad vol'	j	xv	iv	Bonehurst Reley				
	Diverse firme	xiv	vii	iv	et Podyngton				
	Situs Priorat' cum terr'	xxx	ix	vii	[com. Bedf.]	Reddit' maner'	i	vj	vij
	dominicalibus								
Adnoston	Firma Rector'	v	x	iv	Blacovesley	Redd' mesuag'		xij	
	Reddit' assis'		i	viii	Northampton	Redd' ten' terr' &c.		xij	
	Redd' ten' ad vol'	xi	vij	vi	Wapenham	Reddit' croft' & terr'	v	iv	
	Diverse firme	vi	vj	iv	Holmeden	Redd' mesuag' &c.	ij	vij	vij
Culworth	Firma Rector'	v	vj	vij	Hynton Woodford	Reddit' un' mesuag'		xvij	
	Firma Rector'	xi	vj	vij	Weston	Redd' terr' & ten'		xiv	
Podyngton [com. Bedf.]	Firma Rector'	vij	ij	vij	Morton Pynkeney	Firma mans' rector' &c.	ij		
COM. BEDF.						Firma mesuag' &c.	ij	vi	vij
Ryley, alias Thirley. Firma Rector'		x			Lychebarowe	Diverse firme	i	ij	
COM. NORTH.					COM. OXON.				
Morton Pynkeney. Liber' reddit'				vi	Hanwell	Firma mes' & terr'	i	vi	vij
Maydeford	Liber' reddit'			iv	NORTHTON.				
Stepulaston [com. Oxon.]	Liber' reddit'			v	Bonehurst et al'	Firma mesuag'	i	xii	
Bonehurst Reley et Podyngton [com. Bedf.]	Liber' reddit'			ij	Blacovesley	Firma mesuag'	i	vij	vij
Blacovesley	Liber' reddit'			iv	Wapenham	Firma mes' terr' &c.			
Selgrave	Liber' reddit'			v	Coton juxta Culworth	Firma mes' & terr' &c.	i	xij	iv
Wodford	Liber' reddit'			i	Slapeton	Firma terr'		ij	x
Stepulaston [com. Oxon.]	Liber' reddit'			ij	Gremesby [Grimsbury]	Firma terr' & ten'	ii	ij	iv
Morton Pynkeney	Redd' terr' & ten'	ij	xvij	vij	Myddleton	Redd' terr' & ten'		xij	iv
Maydeford	Terr' ten' &c.	ij	iv	vij	Epwell [com. Oxon.]	Feodi firma		iv	
Lychebarow	Reddit' mesuag' &c.	i	vij		Blacovesley	Liber' redd' &c.	i	vj	vij
Edon	Redd' cotag'		iv		Morton	Profe' X'm rector'	vi	xiv	
Preston Capes	Reddit' terr'		ix		[Summa exlviij li. xix s. vj d. ob.]				
Byalde	Redd' terr' vast'			iv					
Compton [com. Warw.]	Redd' terr'			ij ob.					

PRIORS. *William*, prior of Ashby, with *William* and *Geoffrey*, canons, was amongst the attesting witnesses to the deed by which *Baldwin de Bray*, brother to *Stephen de Leye*, certified to *Hugh de Leye* that he had granted all his land in Ashby to his nephew *Robert de Leye*; and it is not improbable but he was *William*, the clerk or chaplain at whose entreaty *Stephen de Leye* became a benefactor to, if not the founder of this monastery.

Alexander demised the rectory of Culworth to *Thomas de Culworth*, in the reign of king *John*. * He appears to be the same whom * *Bale* calls *Alexander de Eschby*, and who, according to that author, wrote the *Christian Festivals*, in imitation of *Ovid de Fastis*, and a history of the Bible in *Latin* verse: He was succeeded by

Hugh, who occurs in 16 *John*. (1214).^a

Geoffrey presided over the convent in 20 *Hen.* 3 (1236)^b, and 28 *Hen.* 3 (1244)^c; and

Adam occurs from 37 *Hen.* 3 (1253)^d to 46 *Hen.* 3 (1261)^e; and

Osbert was party to deeds s. d. which may be referred to the close of this reign.^f

^g *Elias de Chacom*, his successor, was chosen in 1272,

the first year of *Edward* 1, and * died in the twenty-second year of the same reign. Upon his death was elected

Robert de Wardington, who resigned his office in the third year of *Edward* 2, and in his stead succeeded

Robert Luvel. He governed upwards of seven years, and dying in 1318, the eleventh year of the same reign, had for his successor

John de Dodforde. He resigned within two years, and the election fell upon

Robert de Gaucote; upon whose resignation, in the fifteenth year of this reign, was chosen

Adam de Buckingham, who occurs in 2 *Edw.* 3 (1328)^h, and died or resigned soon after; for in the following year the inventory in a preceding page was taken on the accession of

Walter de Neynuit, who died in the seventeenth year of *Edward* 3ⁱ, and upon his decease was chosen

Thomas de Higham, who dying about 1359, was succeeded by

* *Robert de Asheby*. How long he continued doth not appear; but he was probably succeeded by

^a Cartulary, fo. 3. ^b Ibid. fo. 1. ^c Ibid. fo. 113. ^d Br. 1, p. 228. ^e Bale de Script. Britan. Cent. 3, 10, 29. ^f Cartulary, fo. 172. ^g Ibid. fo. 180. ^h Ibid. fo. 19. ⁱ Ibid. fo. 10. ^j Ibid. fo. 76. ^k Ibid. fo. 144 and 146. ^l Reg. Ric. Grovesend Ep. Linc. ^m Reg. Oliv. Sutton Ep. Linc. ⁿ Reg. Joh. Daldery Ep. Linc. ^o Ibid. ^p Reg. Joh. Harrington, vac. sede Lincoln. ^q Cartulary, fo. 47. ^r Reg. Tho. Becke Ep. Linc. ^s Reg. Joh. Gynwell Ep. Linc. ^t Reg. ibid.

^h John Burton, whom we meet with in this office in the fifth year of Henry V. Upon his death was elected William Coleworth,¹ against whom, in the twelfth year of Henry VI., a citation was issued out of the bishop of Lincoln's court, requiring him to show cause why he neglected the care of his flock. To him succeeded

^k John Nantwech, who governed this house in the nineteenth year of the same reign. His successor, it is probable, was



THE COMMON SEAL *ad causas* of the priory is appendant to the acknowledgment of the king's supremacy in the Chapter-house, Westminster. It has a diapered background, and represents the holy virgin seated, nursing an infant Jesus. The legend is mutilated; all which remains is EBI CANONICORUM.

THE CARTULARY has passed with the title deeds of the Puddington and Hinwick estate in Bedfordshire, parcel of the late monastery, down to Richard Orlebar, of Hinwick, esq., by whose kindness I have been indulged with such an extended loan of it as has enabled me to epitomise the whole of its contents. It is a small folio volume, containing 215 pages on parchment, and is in its original binding, literally of *boards* of a considerable thickness covered with leather. In Nasmith's edition of Tanner's *Notitia* are many references to records and other authorities relating to this priory.

The scite of the late monastery and all the demesne lands in Ashby were granted in 29 Hen. 8 (1537) to sir Francis Bryan,^a and in the following year there was a license of alienation to John Cope, esq. afterwards knighted;^o who, with Walter Moyle, esq. in 4 Edw. 6 (1550-1) had a grant (*int. al.*) of all titles whatsoever in "Adnoston," and of the rectory and church of "Ashby Canons, otherwise called Canons Ashby," parcel of the late monastery there. Sir John died in Jan. 4 and 5 Philip and Mary (1557-8) seized of the scite of the manor or monastery of Canons Ashby, with the demesne lands, and the impropriate rectory, with the tithes and vicarage, leaving Edward Cope, his grandson and heir, aged 6 years; from whom they lineally descended, agreeably to the subjoined pedigree, down to Thomas Cope, of London, gent. who in Jan. 16 Car. 2 (1664-5) sold them to

Gerrard Usher, of London, gent. who conveyed them in June following to

Sir Robert Dryden, bart. from which time they have been incorporated with the original Dryden estate in this parish.

COPE, OF CANONS ASHBY AND EYDON.

From visitations, Dryden evidences, public records, and other authorities.

Arms. Argent, on a chevron Azure, between three roses Gules, slant Proper, as many fleurs de lis Or. A crescent for difference. *Crest.* On a wreath a fleur de lis Or, a dragon's head issuing from the top thereof Gules. *Motto.* *Equo adeste animo.*

1 wife, BRIDGET, daughter of Edward Raleigh, of Farnborough, co. Warwick, esq. 22 Jan. 4 & 5 Ph. & Mar. (1557-8). *Exc.* 4 & 5 Ph. & Mar. p. 1, n. 126.

1 wife, BRIDGET, daughter of Edward Raleigh, of Farnborough, co. Warwick, esq. 22 Jan. 4 & 5 Ph. & Mar. (1557-8). *Exc.* 4 & 5 Ph. & Mar. p. 1, n. 126.

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THE MANSION of the Drydens, seated in a small deer park, is an irregular building of different periods. The oldest part, as early as the beginning of the sixteenth century, or perhaps earlier, is built round a small quadrangle, on the west side of which is a square tower, which forms the centre of the garden front, flanked on each side by a plain sashed elevation raised by Edward Dryden, esq. in 1710. Bridges notices^a one room of thirty foot long by twenty foot wide, which is reported to be entirely floored and wainscotted with the timber of one single oak, which grew in this lordship. In the dining-room here alluded to, are portraits of 1. Elizabeth Cornwallis, wife of Edward Allen, esq. eldest son of sir Thomas A. lord mayor of London, in the character of Diana; 2. Elizabeth Allen, wife of Edward Dryden, esq.; 3. sir John Dryden, 7th bart.; 4. Elizabeth Roper, his second wife; 5. Allen Puleston, esq. Over the chimney, in the billiard-room, are two shields in pannels, from the Cope mansion. 1. *Cope*, impaling (Ar.) a dragon (V.), a lion (Az.) crowned (G.) combatant, *Tame*. II. (O.) a chevron (G.), a canton (Ern.) *Stafford* of *Blatherwick* quartering 1. (Ar.) a fess between three bee-hives (S.) the field replenished with bees volant (S.) *Frey*. 2. (Az.) a cross (Ar.) *Aylesbury*. 3. (Az.) two bars (O.) each charged with three martlets (G.) *Burdett*. 4. (Az.) a chief (G.), over all a lion rampant (O.) *Hastang*. 5. *Vairé* (Ar. & Az.) two bars (G.) *Keynes*, impaling *Frey*. The drawing-room is traditionally supposed to have been fitted up for the reception of Anne of Denmark, queen of king James 1. The accompanying plate, for which I am indebted to the kindness of the present proprietor, supersedes description, except to observe of the two shields in the upper compartments of the chimney-piece, that the dexter one is *Dryden*, and the sinister *Dryden* impaling, party per fess G. & S. a chevron rompu between three griffins' heads erased Ern. *Allen*; and that the large shield over the entablature bears Dryden quartering a chevron between three leaves, *Wilkes*, impaling quarterly 1 & 4 G. a chevron O. between three Besants, *Beville*; 2 & 3. Az. three garbs O. *Beaumes*.

THE VILLAGE, if so it may be called, consists only of five dispersed houses. 'But though now reduced to so small a compass,' Bridges says,¹ 'there is a tradition that the village was formerly very considerable; and in proof it is urged that the number of graves, of which the remains are still to be seen in the church-yard, could not possibly arise from the like small number of inhabitants as at present live in it. But whether any just conclusion can be drawn from this circumstance, may fairly be questioned, as these graves were in all probability made for the monks and² their benefactors, to whom this church-yard was a burying place.' In the time of Bridges there were 'six houses in Ashby.' By the census of 1801 it contained the same number of houses and 40 inhabitants; by that of 1811, the same houses and 41 inhabitants; by that of 1821, five houses and 32 inhabitants; and by that of 1831, 31 inhabitants. The annual quota of land-tax for Ashby is £181. 14s. 10d. at 4s. in the £. The estimated value of real property, as assessed to the property-tax of £10. *per cent.* for the year ending April 1815, amounted to £2762. No wake is observed, or has been within remembrance.

THE ADVOWSON, both previous and subsequent to the dissolution of the priory, has been anticipated.

THE RECTORY was valued in the Norwich taxation 38 Hen. 3 (1254) at 15 marks (£10.) *per ann.*³ and in that of pope Nicholas, 20 Edw. 1 (1291)⁴ at the same sum, deducting the vicarage, which consisted of the vicar's diet. It is

^a Br. 1. p. 523.

¹ Ibid. p. 523.

² Vid. Reg. Priorat. p. 144, 193, 194, 195, 196.

³ Cotton MSS. Nero, D. x. fo. 191.

⁴ Tax.

Eed. p. 38.

omitted in the ecclesiastical survey of 26 Hen. 8 (1535); but the same year it 'was let to farm by the monks for ex. iv^s. a year, out of which they paid an annual pension of twelve pence to the bishop of Lincoln.' The inappropriate rectory, as has been already shown, passed from the Copes to the Drydens, and is still included in their estate, but the tithes of Adston have been sold out to the different proprietors.

THE VICARAGE was ordained by Hugh Wells, bishop of Lincoln; * but there is no trace of any endowment having been reserved for an officiating clergyman when the rectory and tithes were granted out after the dissolution. The inhabitants certified to the parliamentary commissioners in 1655 that this manor was anciently a priory, and on the dissolution of the abbey purchased from king Henry VIII., that it was then and now is a peculiar; that the bishops of the diocese never had (the right of) institution nor induction there; that the owners and possessors of it are sir John Dryden, bart, and Michael Cope, esq.; that there is a vicarage there, as they have heard, not worth more than five marks (£3. 6s. 8d.) yearly; that the ministers there have had a sufficient maintenance yearly paid them by the ancestors of the said sir John Dryden and Michael Cope until twenty years or thereabouts, and since then Mr. Perkins, who officiates there, hath had his maintenance allowed him by the said sir John Dryden, viz. £50. yearly and his diet^b. The benefice is now a donation, and not under episcopal jurisdiction; the incumbent or minister being appointed by the lord of the manor, and divine service performed at his expense.

Bridges says, 'c On the north side, adjoining to the chapel, stands the vicarage-house, which outwardly seems to be entire, but is now only the dwelling-house of a shepherd belonging to the manor.' It has been since taken down.

VICARS. *Nicholas de Haumeden*, chaplain, by the prior and convent of Ashby Canons.

William.

Peter de Esseby, priest, 1265.

Robert de Eston.

Thomas de Helydon, priest, March 25, 1831. He was afterwards rector of Edgote.

John de Haerlynglound, priest, 30 May 1342.

Adam Fox de Ashby, priest, 2 Aug. 1349. He exchanged for the rectory of Whitfield with

Hugh Alte Brugg, priest, 28 Sept. 1358.

John le Smyth de Alneston, priest, 3 Aug. 1361.

Sir John Caysho.

William Barfort, priest, 16 Feb. 1366.

William Perkyn, priest, 18 Oct. 1408, the last incumbent who was episcopally instituted.

THE REGISTERS do not commence till the beginning of the eighteenth century.

THE COMMUNION PLATE consists of two silver salvers and a chalice, the gift of sir Erasmus Dryden, bart.

THE CHURCH, dedicated to the Blessed Virgin, is a most interesting relic of the conventual edifice. Though amply capacious for parochial purposes, it is scarcely one-third of its primitive dimensions; for on excavating the scite in September 1823, by direction of sir Henry Dryden, with a view of ascertaining the ichnography, traces of the wall were discovered eastward beyond the present south wall more than one hundred feet. Parallel to this extremity, nearly in a line with the north-east angle of the nave, and which is presumed to have been the old choir, were strong foundations, ten feet long by six feet wide, of large blocks of the coarse limestone of the country; but here, as in every other part attempted, it was impracticable to develop the plan, as it could only be followed in detached portions, the walls having evidently undergone a prior removal, most probably to supply materials for converting the priory into a residence for the Copes. Within the old choir were disinterred two stone coffins, in one of which, shaped to the head, was a perfect skeleton, filled in with gravel; and in the other were two skulls and other bones, probably of two bodies which had been previously disturbed. About forty-four feet eastward of the south end of the nave, was a break in the wall, through which the lead pipe for supplying the convent with water passed, of which two yards were remaining. The absence of the remainder is another proof of the ground having been previously opened. About two yards further eastward was the foundation of one side of a door entering into a room, as nearly as could be ascertained about twenty feet long by fourteen feet wide, with the angles cut off octagonally, and paved with ornamental Norman tiles. This there can be little hesitation in appropriating to the chapter-house; and from it, between two walls, was a passage, also paved with Norman tiles, leading in the direction of, and doubtless the entrance from, the priory.

The present west front, of which an engraving is given, is a handsome imposing elevation, and exhibits a curious example of the progress of what is usually termed the Early English style, from the time of Richard or John—the date of the foundation of this monastery—to the reign of Henry the third or the first Edward. The basement presents an arcade of lancet arches of equal height divided into three series, and having a stringcourse running horizontally over them. The southern division embraces the nave, and has four trefoil-headed arches on clustered shafts with foliated capitals and circular bases, which die into a bold projecting slope. Between them is a rich entrance-door, supported on each side by three shafts—now mutilated or gone—and having in its deeply-recessed mouldings the remnants of two rows of the dog-toothed or four-sided ornaments, so characteristic of that period. There can be little doubt that this division was originally flanked by a south aisle, corresponding with the north aisle, or present central division, which consists of three trefoil-headed arches, exactly similar to those already described. The interpolations in this portion of the building commence almost immediately above the stringcourse; the masonry is disturbed and irregular, and the line of the upper tablets is broken. It may be doubted whether the small window in the centre division is original; but the large one over the entrance-door is an evident insertion in the Perpendicular style of the fifteenth century: it has four cinque-foiled mullions doubled in the head, which has the peculiarity of being arched to a certain distance, and then rectilinear to the apex, with a crocketed finial running into the lower cornice tablet of the gable. The construction of the building necessarily occupied a considerable period, and a gradual transition of style marks the third or north division, which comprises the tower, and includes eight arches of the same height and dimensions as the former, but differing in character; instead of springing from columns, the mouldings rise from the bases of plain piers, and continue to the points of the arches without any interruption. A similar advance of style is observable in the

* Rot. in Offic. Primit.

^b Br. 1, p. 329.

* Reg. Hug. Wells, Ep. Linc. 4to. fo. 11 and 12, and 5 Rot. Antiq. Linc.

^c Lambeth MSS. vol. 20.

buttresses. The dividing one, between the centre and south divisions, is of considerable height and of one stage, ending in a plain sloped set-off, and varies only from the Norman buttress in its increased projection: the terminal south one has an additional short stage and set-off; but the central buttress in the tower is finished with crocketed triangular headings, as are the lateral ones, which are carried into the fourth story, and in the wall above them a curious, if not unique mode of ornament is introduced—the angles are chamfered, and a row of the pierced ball flower runs up each edge. The tower is built throughout with ashler stone, and in the interior, above the belfry windows, are indications of an intended spire, which was probably abandoned for want of funds, and at a comparatively late period it has been crowned with battlements and four plain octagonal pinnacles.

The chapel, as Bridges designated it, had suffered much by dilapidations, till the late Edward Dryden, esq. repaired it, by rebuilding the south wall, and embellishing the inside with new seats, a pulpit, and a beautiful but plain altar-piece⁴. The interior is paved, and partially pewed. The nave and chancel, which are of one pace without distinction, are 49 feet 9 inches long by 28 feet 9 inches wide; the north aisle, 37 feet 8 inches long by 10 feet 6 inches wide; and the tower 13 feet 6 inches long by 18 feet 5 inches wide. The north aisle is only the western commencement of the original one, and is divided from the nave by two lofty and expansive pointed arches and a massive circular pillar, with a shallow square capital and base. The shaft of the font is gone; but the octagonal basin, with trefoil-headed mullions and quatrefoils in the heads, is placed against the north wall, and over it is a spacious escalloped piscina.

MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS.

I. NAVE. On an altar-tomb of free stone the arms and crest of *Dryden*:

Sacred to the Memory
of **St ROBERT DRYDEN**,
Baronett,
who departed this life August
the 19th 1708, ætat sue
76.

On slabs:

1. To the Memory of
JOHN BEAUCHAMP, Esq^r,
of Adston,
who departed this life
the 12th of October
1733.

Near this place are interred
MARY his wife,
and 2 sons and 3 daughters
that died infants.

2. Here lieth the body of
ELIZABETH BEAUCHAMP,
wife of
JOHN BEAUCHAMP, Esq^r,
of Adston,
she departed this life
June 15th 1778,
aged 75 years.

3. HERE LIETH YE BODY OF FRANCES,
THE WIFE OF EDWARD HARRY, OF
ADSTON, ESQ. AND DAUGHTER OF
JOHN ELMS, OF GREENSNORTON,
ESQ.; WHO DIED JULY YE 9TH IN
YE YEAR OF OUR LORD 1708,
AND IN YE 69TH OF HER AGE.

4. HERE LYETH THE BODY OF
EDWARD HARRY, OF ADSTON,
ESQ. WHO DEPARTED THIS
LIFE THE 8TH DAY OF MAY 1689,
ÆTAT SUE 56.

5. Here lyeth ye body of Joseph
King, son of Dr John King,
Rector of Chelsey, near London,
who married Elisabeth, ye
daughter of Joseph Aris, of
Adston, gentleman. He departed
this life ye 24th of January
1702, aged 31 years.

6. Here Lyeth ye Body of Frances
Aris, Wife of Joseph Aris, of
Adston, Gentleman, Who dyed ye
14th of August 170—, Aged 74 years.

7. On a small brass plate, the arms and crest of *Dryden*; and on another brass plate beneath, a small figure of a gentleman in the lay costume of the time of queen Elizabeth, doubtless intended for the first John Dryden, but without any inscription.

8. On a small brass plate:

HERE LYETH INTERRED THE
BODY OF ERASMUS DRYDEN,
BARRONETT, WHO DECEASED THE
22ND OF MAYE, ANNO DOMINI 1632;
AND OF DAME FRANCES HIS WIFE,
WHO DECEASED THE 16TH OF FEB. 1830.

On another small brass plate:

9. HERE LYETH INTERRED THE
BODY OF JOHN DRYDEN, THE
SONNE OF JOHN DRYDEN, BAR-
RONETT, WHO DECEASED THE 4TH
OF DECEMBER 1631.

II. CHANCEL. On the north wall, within the altar rails, is a handsome mural monument of statuary marble, with black background; a female figure in bas-relief is leaning over, and placing a wreath of flowers on a votive altar on which are the arms and crest of *Dryden*; underneath:

TO THE MEMORY OF
JOHN EDWARD TURNER DRYDEN, BARONET.

III. On the south wall, within the altar rails, is an elegant mural monument by C. Rossi, of statuary marble with grey pedimental background. A veiled female figure in bas-relief is seated with one hand in her lap and the other placed behind an urn, on the pedestal of which are the arms and crest of *Dryden*; on a tablet beneath:

Near this place, in the family Vault, are interred the remains of
JOHN TURNER DRYDEN, the eighth Baronet in the *DRYDEN* family;
he departed this life at a premature age, after a rapid decline
attended with great sufferings, upon Easter day

⁴ Br. 1, p. 224.

in the year One Thousand Seven Hundred and Ninety Seven,
leaving a Widow and eldest Son to lament unceasingly his loss,
and to remember with gratitude his Virtues.

As a grateful but inadequate memorial of his tenderness and affection,
this Monument to his beloved memory is erected
by his disconsolate Widow and affectionate Son.

*"On some fond breast the parting Soul relies,
Some pious drops the closing eye requires;
Even from the Tomb the voice of nature cries,
Even in our Ashes live their wonted fires."*

On the east side of the church-yard, on an altar tomb
of stone is a small brass plate, at each corner of which
are the emblems of death, a scull and two bones in saltire.
At the head:

The Body of SARAH GRIME, Daughter of
CHRISTOPHER GRIME, of Adson, was
here interred April the Vth
1639.

An Anagram's { SARAI GRIME.
Is MARRIAGE.

A Virgins death we say her MARRIAGE IS
SPECTATORS view a pregnant proof in this,
Her SUIZER'S CHRIST, to him her troth she plights,
Being both agre'd, then to the nuptial rites.
Vertue's her tire, prudence her wedding RING,
Angells the BRID-MAN lead her to the KING;
Her Royal BRIDEGROOM in the Heav'nly Quire,
Her Joyntures blisse, what more could she desire?

Noe Wonder hence soe soone she sped away,
Her Husband call'd, Shee must not make delay.
Not dead, but Married shee. Her Progeny
The stem of Grace that lives Eternally.
Resurgam.

On the north side of the same tomb:
Here also sleeps the body of Obadiah Lord, sonne to Obadiah
Lord, of Banbury, an infantaged 18 months: buried May 8, 1639.

This infant was put out to nurse, but when
Unkindly used, God took it home agen;
Dane Nature's darling's not for every hand,
Hence 'twas transported to the Holy Land,
Where now 'tis fed with heavenly food above,
And wrapt it is with swaddling bands of love;
Angels th' attendants dandle 't on their knees,
And hush it quiet with their lullabies;
'Twas wearied here; God knew its nature best,
Laid it to sleep in bed, in peace, and rest.
Resurgam.

SKIRMISH, Apr. 1644. "On the 18th of April 1644, a party of thirty of the parliamentary infantry were sent by serjeant-major Whetham, governor of Northampton, to collect money in the neighbourhood of Banbury, and took up their quarters at sir John "Drayton's" [Dryden's] house at Canons Ashby, six miles from Banbury. In the night a party of about two hundred foot and twenty horse from Banbury castle, or, according to another account, a party of the earl of Northampton's horse with eighty foot from Banbury¹, marched into the town; and the parliamentarians having intelligence of their approach, retreated into the church for safety, where the enemy pursued them, and soon effected an entrance by fastening a petard upon the door which forced it open, whereupon the besieged took refuge in the steeple, which they maintained two hours, but at length the enemy beginning to set fire to it, they surrendered on terms, and were all conveyed prisoners to Banbury, except one, who was left behind wounded. One of the royalists was killed by a stone from the steeple, and two or three others were wounded. They took thirty muskets and about £7 in money, and put all their prisoners, except the clerk of the company, who commanded the party (who was carried to the castle) into a barn at Banbury. The next day the committee and governor of Northampton sent to offer an exchange of prisoners, which being refused, they dispatched five or six troops of cavalry with fifty firelocks to Banbury, who being led to the town on foot, first released the prisoners in the barn, and then marched forward into the body of the town, where they were opposed by a party of the enemy, whom they drove into the castle, and took thirty-two prisoners, besides rescuing ten men who had been impressed, and taking about forty horse and as many muskets, with which booty they returned back to Northampton, with the loss only of one man, who adventuring too far, was taken prisoner by the enemy.

ADSTON,

formerly written Atteneston and Adneston, contains about 1,380 acres of old inclosure, of which about 550 acres belong to the Corporation for the benefit of the sons of the clergy; about 245 acres to Mr. Thomas Aris, of Oakley Bank in Plumpton; about 165 acres to William Parker, esq.; about 155 acres to Worcester college, Oxford; and about 120 acres to Mr. Henry Elliott, of Potcote. It is bounded on the north by Preston Capes in Fawsley hundred; north-east by Maidford, and south-east by Blakesley; south by Wood End in Blakesley, and Plumpton; and west by Morton Pinkeney, and Canons Ashby. The soil is principally a strong loam, and about two-thirds is in permanent pasture. There are two quarries of red sand-stone used for building. The old fulling mill is now ruinous.

MANORIAL HISTORY. TERRA REGIS. "Ateneston" was surveyed in Domesday, but without any specification of measurement or value, as a member of the royal manor of Norton². In the hydarium of Hen. 2, *Geoffrey de Turville* was certified to hold three small virgates, and the monks of Bec eight small virgates in Atteneston³.

¹ Mercurius Civicus.

² Mercurius Alicus.

³ Domesd. fo. 119 b.

⁴ Cotton MSS. Vesp. E. xxii, fo. 98 b.

HONORS OF LEICESTER* AND WINCHESTER†. By an early subinfeudation from the crown, Adstou became annexed to the honors of Leicester and Winchester; and by a further subinfeudation the mesne paramourcy of the Winchester portion passed to Margaret de Ripariis, under whom, about 21 Hen. 3 (1236), the prior of *Ashby and Alexander de Bosco* held the third of a fee in "Atteneston," and *Philip Basset* the fourth of a fee here and at Middleton Chenduit¹. In 42 Edw. 3 (1369)² Robert lord Lisle, the successor of Margaret, surrendered his entire honor or barony to the king, as detailed under **FARTHINGHO** †, when *Thomas Golafre* answered for two-thirds of a fee in Blakesley and one-third in Adstou.

On the inquisition after the death of Edmund earl of Lancaster and Leicester in 25 Edw. 1 (1297)³, Adstou was included in the knights' fees held under him by *Nicholas de Turville* of **HELMDON**. In 34 Edw. 1 (1367), *Richard Fareman*, of Atteneston, bound himself and his heirs to acquit and defend *Peter le Charetter* and Isabel his wife from all suit at the court of the earl of Leicester for the tenement which Robert Stochull and Agnes his wife formerly held in that vill of *Richard de Atteneston*⁴; and in 9 Edw. 2 (1315), *Ralph de Atteneston*, probably son of this Richard, was certified to be lord of the vill⁵.

In 3 Edw. 3 (1329), Matilda de Holand, in right of the honor of Winchester, substantiated her claim to view of frank pledge twice a year (*int. al.*) in Adstou⁶. In 39 Edw. 3 (1365), *Eadmer Boys*, widow of Walter Boys, of Farthingston, probably the heir of Bosco, granted a part of Armley Wood in Maidford to *Robert de Charvelton* †, to whom a fine was levied of the manor of Adstou in the 41st year of the same reign⁷.

The lands here belonging to the abbey of Bec in Normandy, were, after the suppression of the alien priories, transferred by Hen. 6, with its other English possessions, as stated at **WEDON** §, to Eton college near Windsor; and in 19 Hen. 7 (1503), sir John Danvers and Thomas Lovett, esq., released lands in Maidford and "Atteneston" to *Richard Coles*, of **PRESTON CAPES** †, who died in 20 Hen. 8 (1528) seized (*int. al.*) of lands in Adstou, held of the provost of that college⁸.

John Dryden, of **CANONS ASHBY**, esq., devised his estate in Adstou to his fourth son George Dryden, gent.; and it was subsequently purchased by Thomas Harby, esq.

The family of *Aris* had an estate here; and entered their pedigree in the visitations of the seventeenth century.

John Beauchamp, esq. who was sheriff of the county in 1720, resided on his estate here. His daughter and heiress *Anna Maria*, married sir Edward Boughton, of Lawford Hall in Warwickshire, sixth baronet, and his present lineal representative is his great-grand-daughter *Theodosia de Malsburgh*, wife of John Ward Boughton Leigh, esq. of Brownsover house in that county, and of Guilsborough; but the estate here has been alienated.

ASHBY PRIORY MANOR. Herbert Golafre, who was contemporary with the foundation of Ashby priory, gave to William the first prior and the canons there, half an hide in "Atteneston" as his grandfather held it, quit of all except regal service¹. Hugh Golafre confirmed half an hide with a mansion in Atteneston, of the gift of his father, free from all secular service and the custom called "chirehescot," saving regal right²; and by another deed, granted and confirmed three virgates and a half in "Atteneston" with a messuage, and all men holding the said lands, viz. Festmund, Richard the son of Ralph, and others, a virgate which Geoffrey de Norton then held, rendering 16d. yearly, and two other virgates which his father gave them, to hold the said six virgates and a half free from all service, except as much foreign service as belongs to six virgates and a half of a knights' fee, which contains thirty-five virgates and a half. Roger Golafre, son of Hugh, confirmed the donation of his father, and his grandfather Herbert Golafre, of six virgates and a half in "Atteneston," quit of all service except as in his father's grant³. Considerable light is thrown by these deeds on a disputable and important point with feudal antiquaries—the relative proportions of the virgate or yardland, the hide, and the knight's fee; they prove that at that early period, or at least in this particular instance, six virgates and a half were equivalent to half an hide, or about the sixth part of a knight's fee, which must, therefore, have consisted of three hides within a fraction. The virgate held by Geoffrey de Norton, was quit-claimed by William de Braden, for the health of the souls of his father Geoffrey and his mother Isabel⁴. Robert de Turville granted to the priory a virgate in "Atteneston," rendering 4s. yearly⁵, which was confirmed by his grandson Simon, son of Simon de Turville, who remitted to them the 4s. yearly, reserved in the original grant⁶. William de Pinkney, of Morton, confirmed for the souls of his father Simon and his mother Helewyse, 10s. yearly rent in "Atteneston," out of two virgates which Robert Britice held, and quit-claimed 2s. 1d. yearly out of 4s. 1d. which the canons were accustomed to pay to him⁷. In sir Hugh Golafre's grant, it will be recollected, were included the men or natives attached to the soil, or as they are technically termed, villains regardant; but a still more melancholy and degraded picture of legal slavery in the dark ages of this "land of liberty," and the pecuniary price set upon the fee simple of human beings, is exhibited in another deed under the head of Adstou, whereby Wido or Guy de la Hay, of "Crewelton" [Croughton], who was a benefactor to Aynho hospital in the reign of John, sold and quit-claimed for himself and his heirs for ever, and confirmed to the prior and convent of Ashby his men and natives, Richard de Crewelton and Walter his brother, with all their goods and chattels, for 4s. which he had received of the said prior and convent⁸.

By the inquisition after the death of Alan Zouch in 7 Edw. 2 (1314), it was found that the prior of Ashby held the fourth of a fee of him in "Atteneston"; and in 13 Edw. 2 (1320), the prior had a grant of free warren (*int. al.*) in Adstou⁹. In 6 Edw. 3 (1332), the jurors on an inquisition *ad q. d.* found that it would not be to the damage of the king if Matilda Tibbay, probably daughter of Richard Tibbay, of Middleton Chenduit¹⁰, enfeoffed the prior and convent of Ashby of two messuages, ninety acres of land, ten acres of meadow, and 12d. rent in "Atteneston;" one messuage and fifty-five acres of which land, and the 12d. rent, were held of the said prior and convent

¹ Test. Nev. fo. 157.

² Esc. 42 Edw. 3, p. 2, n. 53. Orig. 42 Edw. 3, r. 30.

³ Esc. 25 Edw. 1, n. 51.

⁴ Madox's Formulæ, p. 360.

⁵ Cardigan MSS. "Nom. Vill." p. 8.

⁶ Quo War. 3 Edw. 3.

⁷ Knightley evidence.

⁸ Hutton MSS. Fin. 41 Edw. 3.

⁹ Knightley evidence.

¹⁰ Esc. 20 Hen. 6, n. 41.

¹¹ Ashby Cartulary, fo. 16.

¹² Ibid. fo. 17.

¹³ Ibid. fo. 18.

¹⁴ Ibid. fo. 23.

¹⁵ Ibid. fo. 31.

¹⁶ Ibid. fo. 20.

¹⁷ Esc. 7 Edw. 2, n. 36.

¹⁸ Cart. 13 Edw. 2, n. 8.

¹⁹ Vide DODDARD, i. p. 349.

²⁰ Vide BRACKLEY, i. p. 561.

²¹ Vide vol. i. p. 619.

²² Vide vol. i. p. 451.

²³ Vide vol. i. p. 537.

²⁴ Vide vol. i. p. 632.

by service of 4s. yearly, and the other messuage and thirty-two acres, and all the meadow, were held of the prior of Okeburn in Wiltshire, *locum tenens* of the abbot of Bec. In the taxation of 1291 (20 Edw. 1) the temporalities of the Ashby priory in Adston were not separately rated, but in the survey of 1535 (26 Hen. 8), they were valued at £13. 2s. 4d. *per ann.* and in the minister's accounts on the dissolution at £17. 15s. 6d. *per ann.*^a

The manor of Adston, parcel of the dissolved monastery of Canons Ashby, was granted in 4 Edw. 6 (1550), to sir Ralph Sadler and Lawrence Washington, esq.^b; and the mill with the remainder of their other possessions here in 1 Mar. (1554), to Thomas Reeve and George Cotton.^c In 6 Edw. 6 (1552),

William Harby, gent. died seized of this manor with certain lands and tithes, parcel of the late priory at Ashby, leaving Thomas Harby, esq. his son and heir^b, who purchased the remainder of the tithes of sir John Cope^d, the grantee; and whose lineal descendant Francis Harby, esq. with his son and heir apparent Keynham Harby, esq. sold this manor and estate in June 1720, for £6893. 2s. 6d. to the governors of the charity for relief of the poor widows and children of clergymen.^k

HARBY OF ADSTON.

From visitations, public records, parish register of Adston*, and other authorities.

Arms. Gules, a fess dancette Ermine, between ten billets Argent, four in chief, six in base. *Crest.* An eagle's head erased Or, between two wings expanded Sable, Beanty.

NICHOLAS HARBY, of co. Cambridge.

WILLIAM HARBY, of Adston, gent. 31 Hen. 8 (1540), ob. 28 Oct. 6 Edw. 6 (1552). *Exc.* 1 Mar. n. 91. — EMMA, dau. of William Wilmer, of Ashby.

1. W. ADISTON, of Ashby, gent. 1 Mar. n. 91. — THOMAS HARBY, of Adston, esq. 22. <i>Exc.</i> 1 Mar. n. 91. — MARGA-RET, dau. of John Fox, of Burford, co. Oxon, gent. May, 34 Elizab. (1594). <i>Exc.</i> 34 John Marsh, Esq. p. 2, n. 116.	2. W. MARGA-RET, dau. of John Fox, of Burford, co. Oxon, gent. May, 34 Elizab. (1594). <i>Exc.</i> 34 John Marsh, Esq. p. 2, n. 116.	3. W. CATHERINE, dau. of Clement Throgmorton, of Hasleby, co. Oxon, esq. 3rd son of sir Geo. T. of Coughton, co. Warw.	4. Q. 1 h. daughter of Clement Throgmorton, of Hasleby, co. Oxon, esq. 3rd son of sir Geo. T. of Coughton, co. Warw.	5. W. ANNE, dau. of Richard Domes, of London.	6. W. ANNE, dau. of sir Rich. Sal-tonall, q. of Chip-ping War-den.	7. W. ANNE, dau. of sir Rich. Sal-tonall, q. of Chip-ping War-den.	8. W. ANNE, dau. of sir Rich. Sal-tonall, q. of Chip-ping War-den.	9. W. ANNE, dau. of sir Rich. Sal-tonall, q. of Chip-ping War-den.	10. W. ANNE, dau. of sir Rich. Sal-tonall, q. of Chip-ping War-den.
11. W. ANNE, dau. of sir Rich. Sal-tonall, q. of Chip-ping War-den.	12. W. ANNE, dau. of sir Rich. Sal-tonall, q. of Chip-ping War-den.	13. W. ANNE, dau. of sir Rich. Sal-tonall, q. of Chip-ping War-den.	14. W. ANNE, dau. of sir Rich. Sal-tonall, q. of Chip-ping War-den.	15. W. ANNE, dau. of sir Rich. Sal-tonall, q. of Chip-ping War-den.	16. W. ANNE, dau. of sir Rich. Sal-tonall, q. of Chip-ping War-den.	17. W. ANNE, dau. of sir Rich. Sal-tonall, q. of Chip-ping War-den.	18. W. ANNE, dau. of sir Rich. Sal-tonall, q. of Chip-ping War-den.	19. W. ANNE, dau. of sir Rich. Sal-tonall, q. of Chip-ping War-den.	20. W. ANNE, dau. of sir Rich. Sal-tonall, q. of Chip-ping War-den.

Vide p. 6.

1. EDWARD HARBY, of Adston, esq. 7. <i>Exc.</i> 5 Jac. sheriff co. Northamp. 27 Dec. 1643; ob. 3 July 1674.	2. EDWARD HARBY, of Adston, esq. 7. <i>Exc.</i> 5 Jac. sheriff co. Northamp. 27 Dec. 1643; ob. 3 July 1674.	3. EDWARD HARBY, of Adston, esq. 7. <i>Exc.</i> 5 Jac. sheriff co. Northamp. 27 Dec. 1643; ob. 3 July 1674.	4. EDWARD HARBY, of Adston, esq. 7. <i>Exc.</i> 5 Jac. sheriff co. Northamp. 27 Dec. 1643; ob. 3 July 1674.	5. EDWARD HARBY, of Adston, esq. 7. <i>Exc.</i> 5 Jac. sheriff co. Northamp. 27 Dec. 1643; ob. 3 July 1674.	6. EDWARD HARBY, of Adston, esq. 7. <i>Exc.</i> 5 Jac. sheriff co. Northamp. 27 Dec. 1643; ob. 3 July 1674.	7. EDWARD HARBY, of Adston, esq. 7. <i>Exc.</i> 5 Jac. sheriff co. Northamp. 27 Dec. 1643; ob. 3 July 1674.	8. EDWARD HARBY, of Adston, esq. 7. <i>Exc.</i> 5 Jac. sheriff co. Northamp. 27 Dec. 1643; ob. 3 July 1674.	9. EDWARD HARBY, of Adston, esq. 7. <i>Exc.</i> 5 Jac. sheriff co. Northamp. 27 Dec. 1643; ob. 3 July 1674.	10. EDWARD HARBY, of Adston, esq. 7. <i>Exc.</i> 5 Jac. sheriff co. Northamp. 27 Dec. 1643; ob. 3 July 1674.
11. EDWARD HARBY, of Adston, esq. 7. <i>Exc.</i> 5 Jac. sheriff co. Northamp. 27 Dec. 1643; ob. 3 July 1674.	12. EDWARD HARBY, of Adston, esq. 7. <i>Exc.</i> 5 Jac. sheriff co. Northamp. 27 Dec. 1643; ob. 3 July 1674.	13. EDWARD HARBY, of Adston, esq. 7. <i>Exc.</i> 5 Jac. sheriff co. Northamp. 27 Dec. 1643; ob. 3 July 1674.	14. EDWARD HARBY, of Adston, esq. 7. <i>Exc.</i> 5 Jac. sheriff co. Northamp. 27 Dec. 1643; ob. 3 July 1674.	15. EDWARD HARBY, of Adston, esq. 7. <i>Exc.</i> 5 Jac. sheriff co. Northamp. 27 Dec. 1643; ob. 3 July 1674.	16. EDWARD HARBY, of Adston, esq. 7. <i>Exc.</i> 5 Jac. sheriff co. Northamp. 27 Dec. 1643; ob. 3 July 1674.	17. EDWARD HARBY, of Adston, esq. 7. <i>Exc.</i> 5 Jac. sheriff co. Northamp. 27 Dec. 1643; ob. 3 July 1674.	18. EDWARD HARBY, of Adston, esq. 7. <i>Exc.</i> 5 Jac. sheriff co. Northamp. 27 Dec. 1643; ob. 3 July 1674.	19. EDWARD HARBY, of Adston, esq. 7. <i>Exc.</i> 5 Jac. sheriff co. Northamp. 27 Dec. 1643; ob. 3 July 1674.	20. EDWARD HARBY, of Adston, esq. 7. <i>Exc.</i> 5 Jac. sheriff co. Northamp. 27 Dec. 1643; ob. 3 July 1674.

THE MANSIONS of Harby and Beauchamp are both reduced to farm houses.

THE VILLAGE, situated about seven miles from Daventry and Towcester, in the time of Bridges was an 'hamlet of nineteen houses, exclusive of four inns in the grounds of which the fulling mill is one.' By the census of 1801 it contained 35 houses and 161 inhabitants; by that of 1811, the same number of houses, and 185 inhabitants; by that of 1821, 26 houses and 171 inhabitants; and by that of 1831, 166 inhabitants. The annual quota of land tax is £102. 15s. 4d. at 4s. in the pound. The estimated value of real property as assessed to the property tax of 10 *per cent.* for the year ending April 1815 amounted to £1,878. The poor's rates for the year ending Easter 1832 raised £180. 16s. at 3s. in the pound. The wake is kept on the Sunday after St. Martin.

THE IMPROPRIATE RECTORY was let to farm at the dissolution of Ashby priory at £5. 6s. 8d. *per ann.*^m Being a member of Canons Ashby, all tithes whatsoever in "Adneston" were included in the grant of the rectory of Ashby in 4 Edw. 6 (1550-1), to sir John Copeⁿ, of whom they were purchased as above stated by Thomas Harby, esq. and have subsequently been alienated in parcels to accompany the freeholds.

INCUMBENCY, OR CURACY. The inhabitants certified to the parliamentary commissioners in 1655, that they had a considerable congregation, and belonged to Canons Ashby where they buried their dead; that there was no vicarage only a chapel, and no provision for a minister; that in time of popery the cure was served by some of the

^a *Exc.* 6 Edw. 3. p. 2, n. 119.

^b *Augm. Off.*

^c *Pat.* 15 Dec. 4 Edw. 6. p. 4.

^d *Pat.* 29 May, 1 Mar. p. 3.

^k *Exc.* 1 Mar. n. 91.

^e *Exc.* 34 Eliz. p. 2, n. 116.

^f *Title deeds.*

^g *Br.* 1. p. 230.

^h *Augm. Off.*

ⁱ *Pat.* 3 Mar. 4 Edw. 6. p. 9.

canons from the priory of Canons Ashby, but since the dissolution the duties had been performed by curates who had been nominated and put in by Edward Harby, esq. and his predecessors, and always maintained by them, except some few years past during the long parliament, being then allowed an augmentation of £50 yearly, but for these two or three years they had not had it; that it is distant from Ashby one mile, the way very bad, and one mile from Maidford, betwixt which there is a brook not passable in a flood; that Mr. John Cocke was then curate, to whom Mr. Harby gave £20 yearly and his diet; and that it was very fit that sufficient maintenance be laid to these two places. Bridges says, 'there is no settled incumbent; and the chapel is served by a subscription of the inhabitants?'. Divine service is now performed here every Sunday; and the corporation of the sons of clergy contribute £30, the inhabitants £20, and Worcester college the interest of £100, yearly to the officiating minister.

THE REGISTER begins in 1678, and is kept by the present rector of Maidford, the officiating minister.

CHAPEL. Savaricus, archdeacon of Northampton between 1175 and 1192, confirmed to the canons of Ashby, that the church of Ashby and the chapel of "Atteneston," which belongs to the said parish, should be quit and free from all cathedral and other customs, except the annual payment of Peterpence which they were accustomed to pay in the time of the archdeacon his predecessor, viz. 2s. for the said church and chapel.

THE CHAPEL stands north of the old manor house, and was built by one of the family of Harby, but never endowed? It consists of a nave, south aisle, and porch. The interior is neatly paved and pewed, and has a west gallery. The nave is thirty-five feet three inches long, by eighteen feet seven inches wide, and the aisle twenty-six feet long by nine feet wide.

BENEFACTIONS (vide p. 1).

BLAKESLEY.

anciently written "Blaculveslei, Blacolveslea, Blachesleuve," and sometimes "Blaxley," is an extensive parish, comprehending the hamlets or members of Woodend, or Wood Blakesley, Kirby, Green's Park, Sewell, and part of Foxley, and contains about 4000 acres. It is bounded on the north by Litchborough, in Fawsley hundred; and north-east by Grimscoate in Cold Higham, and some isolated parts of Pateshull in Towcester hundred; south-east, by Greens Norton and Bradden; south, by Slapton, Wappenham in Sutton hundred, and Wedon Pinkney; south-west, by Plamp-ton; west by Adstton, and north-west by Maidford.

Blakesley was inclosed by act of parliament 33 Geo. 2. (1760), and with the old inclosures contains about 1500 acres, of which about 200 acres each belong to the rev. Thomas Coleman Welch, of Pateshull, and the late Mr. William Edwards; about 135 acres to Mr. Richard Gardiner, of Silveston; about 130 acres each to Mrs. Mason, widow of admiral Mason, and Mr. Charles Mountfort; and about 125 acres to the late Mr. George Attenborough. The soil varies from stiff clay and light loam to gravel. Nearly two-thirds is in permanent pasture. There are some lime quarries supposed to be worked out, and two or three quarries of red sandstone are worked for building and repair of the roads. A brook which rises near Preston Capes, after dividing Adstton from Maidford, runs between Blakesley and Woodend for nearly two miles, and flows into the Tove between Bradden and Greens Norton. The lordship abounds in springs, some of which are slightly chalybeate.

MANORIAL HISTORY. Blakesley, exclusive of Foxley and Sewell, was originally compounded of no less than four estates; two of which were parcelled out to earl Morton and earl Hugh (of Chester); the third was retained by the King; and the fourth, which was assigned to William Peverel, constituted Wood Blakesley, or Woodend.

MORETON FEE.* *Sagrim*, the Saxon proprietor, in the time of Edward the Confessor, of the largest estate in "Blaculveslei," which was within the soke of the royal manor of Norton, and valued at 10s. yearly, was permitted to hold it after the Norman Conquest, under the earl of Moreton, when it was rated at double the former valuation. It contained an hide and a half. The arable land was three carucates and a half; of which one carucate was in the occupation of two villeins and two servants, and the remainder was waste, or unaccounted for. There were two acres of meadow. The confirmation charter of Richard 1st to the abbey of Grestein in Normandy†, in 1189, recites amongst the grants in "Nordantesira" from William earl of Moreton, son of the Norman grantee, the monastery in "Blaculveslega" and two hides of land which *Sagrim* the priest held. Two facts omitted in Domesday are here supplied: that this estate was then, or had been, a monastic foundation; and that *Sagrim*, who was recorded as the proprietor, was a priest, probably presiding over the establishment. It is observable too, that at the date of this royal exemplification, these lands had ceased to be devoted to religious purposes, and the monks of Grestein must have surrendered their interest in them, for the whole was converted into lay property prior to the hydarium of Hen. 2. and the paramoury of one part of the confiscated Moreton fee was in the honor of Berkhamptsted, and of the other in the honor of Winchester.

* Lambeth MSS. vol. 20.

† Br. 1. p. 230.

‡ Ashby Cartulary, fo. 18.

§ Domesd. fo. 224.

• Mon. Ang. 2. p. 582.

* Vide BUGBORE, i. p. 120.

† Vide GRAFTON REGIS.

HONOR OF BERKHAMPTSD. In the hydariam of Hen. 2. one *Gilbert* held in "Blacovesle" an hide and a half, and a small virgate, of the fee of Berkhamptstead¹. In the Testa de Nevill, about 27 Hen. 3 (1242), *John de la Hay* was certified to hold of the honor of Berkhamptstead one fee in "Blacuflesle," which in 20 Edw. 3 (1346) was in the hands of *William de la Hay* and *John Fozle*². In the inquisition after the death of Edward late prince of Wales, in 2 Ric. 2, (the late) *John de Foxley* was returned to hold two fees in "Blacovesle" and Foxley³, which would imply that he had acquired the De la Hay fee: that family, however, occurs as late as 18 Hen. 7 (1502), when Edward de la Hay levied a fine of lands here⁴.

In the reign of Henry 2nd, the honor of Berkhamptsd, in Hertfordshire, parcel of the forfeited possessions of William earl of Moreton and Cornwall son of the Norman grantee, was in the hands of the crown; and in the Liber Niger, 14 Hen. 2 (1167), was certified to consist of twenty-two knights' fees and a half, a third, and a seventeenth part, and that when the scutage was one mark for a fee, these fees paid only 8s. 10d. or two thirds, each fee⁵; being, as they are termed in the Testa de Nevill, small fees of Moreton⁶. It remained in the crown till 7 Joh. (1206), when it was granted to Geoffrey Fitz Piers, earl of Essex, in tail male by Aveline his second wife⁷, at a fee farm rent of £100 per ann.⁸ but on the death of the earl in 14 Joh. (1213), it was resumed by the crown, notwithstanding he left male issue; and in 11 Hen. 3 (1227), the king gave this honor⁹ with the earldom of Cornwall to his brother Richard, afterwards king of Almaine, or the Romans, on the decease of whose son Edmond earl of Cornwall s. p. in 28 Edw. 1 (1289-90), the king, as cousin and heir, succeeded to his inheritance¹⁰. In 1 Edw. 2 (1308), this honor and the earldom of Cornwall were bestowed by the king on his favourite Piers de Gaveston, but on his murder by the associated barons, again reverted to the crown; and in 2 Edw. 3 (1328), John of Eltham, the king's next brother, was advanced to the earldom of Cornwall; and in 4 Edw. 3 (1380) had a grant of the castle and honor of Berkhamptsd, with other honors and lands to the amount of 2000 marks (£1,333. 6s. 8d.) per ann.¹¹ He died unmarried in 10 Edw. 3 (1336), and the king in the following year created his eldest son Edward commonly called the Black Prince, duke of Cornwall¹²; since which period the honor of Berkhamptsd has been annexed to the duchy of Cornwall. The eldest son of the king of England, whether so by birth, or by the death of his elder brother, is, by the limitation of the act of parliament 11 Edw. 3 (1337), as explained and ratified in 1613 by the declaration of James I. with the advice and assent of his privy council, *ipso facto* duke of Cornwall without any creation; and by creation prince of Wales, in which superior dignity the dukedom is merged.

The stewardship of the honor has for centuries been leased out, and is now vested in the devisees of the late earl of Bridgewater. The honor extends over nearly sixty places in the counties of Hertford, Buckingham, and Northampton; and all the tenants of its members formerly appeared at the great court leet held at the castle, but now each county has its separate court. The Northamptonshire court may be held at any place within the honor; but it is now, and has for many years past, been held in this town, and is stiled the view of frank pledge and court baron for the manor of "Blaxley," parcel of the honor of Berkhamptsd and duchy of Cornwall. The following officers are appointed at it, a constable and headborough for Blakesley, a headborough for Foxley, a constable for Charwelton, a headborough for West Farndon, and a constable and headborough for Middleton Cheney. And the following towns and hamlets owe suit and service, and pay quit-rents, but several of them are many years in arrear: 1. Althorp or Oldthorp, 2. Arthingworth, 3. Blakesley, 4. Bowden Parva, 5. Carlton, 6. Charlton, 7. Charwelton, 8. Dingley, 9 and 10. Easton Neston with Hulcott, 11. Farndon East, 12. Farndon West, 13. Fawsley, 14. Foxley, 15 and 16. Furtho or Fortho with Cosgrave, 17. Harleston, 18. Haselbeech, 19. Houghton or Hanging Houghton, 20. Middleton Cheney or Chenduit, 21. Oxendon Parva, 22. Preston on the Hill or Preston Capes, 23. Snoscomb or Snowscomb, 24. Stratford Old, 25. Thornby or Thurnby, 26. Thorp by Daventry, and 27. Welton.

HONOR OF WINCHESTER†. PLUMPTON MANOR. In the hydariam of Hen. 2, *William de Plumpton* † was certified to hold two hides and two small virgates in "Blacovesle¹," and in the Testa de Nevill, about 27 Hen. 3 (1242), *Robert de Plumpton* was found to hold the fourth of a fee here, of Roger de Quincy, of the honor of Leicester², or rather of that division of it which then constituted the honor of Winchester. The family of de Bosco³ had, however, acquired an intermediate seignory, for in 5 Edw. 1 (1276) Ernald de Bosco died seized (*int. al.*) of view of frank pledge or court leet, worth 5s. yearly more or less, extending over thirty virgates in "Blacovesle," held of him by *William de St. John* †, the representative of Plumpton, by service of a fourth of a fee⁴; and in 24 Edw. 1 (1295) William de Bosco conveyed (*int. al.*) this view of frank pledge to Milicent de Montalt⁵, mother of *William lord Zouch*, of HARRINGWORTH, who in 7 Edw. 2 (1314) held half a fee here of Alan lord Zouch⁶, of BRACKLEY. His lineal descendant, William lord Zouch, of Totness in Devonshire and Haringworth, in 10 Hen. 4 (1408) acquitted *William de Harwooden*, the representative of Plumpton and St. John, of his homage for his lands in "Blacovesle⁷," which continued in a direct line of inheritance down to sir *Valentine Knightley*, of FAWLSLEY, who died in 8 Eliz. (1566) seized of lands and tenements here, held of lord Zouch by suit at the court of his manor, leaving sir *Richard Knightley*, his son and heir⁸, by whom they were probably alienated, as they disappear in the inquisition after his death in 13 Jac. (1615)⁹.

ZOUCH MANOR. Besides a seignorial interest in the last manor, the Zouches of Haringworth had an usufructuary interest in a manor here, which from the tenure must have been partly at least in Woodend or Little Blakesley. In 29 Edw. 1 (1300) a fine was levied of a manor in Blakesley to *William lord Zouch*⁹, whose great grandson, *William lord Zouch*, died in 19 Ric. 2 (1396) seized of a manor in Blakesley, held of the hospital of St. John of Jerusalem

¹ Cotton MSS. Vesp. E. xxii. fo. 95 b. ² Test. Nev. fo. 118. ³ Islam MSS. No. 38. "Comp. Writ. Paries," p. 194. ⁴ Esc. 2 Ric. 2. n. 57. ⁵ Hatton MSS. "Fin. Mich." 18 Hen. 7. ⁶ Lib. Nig. p. 1. ⁷ Test. Nev. fo. 131. ⁸ Cart. 7 Joh. n. 106, m. 19. ⁹ Chauncy's Herts. p. 572. ¹⁰ Esc. 28 Edw. 1, n. 44. ¹¹ Cart. 4 Edw. 3, n. 12. ¹² Cart. 11 Edw. 3, n. 1. ¹³ Cott. MSS. Vesp. E. xxij. fo. 95 b.

¹⁴ Test. Nev. fo. 118. ¹⁵ Esc. 5 Edw. 1, n. 9. ¹⁶ Burton's Leicestershire, p. 293. ¹⁷ Esc. 7 Edw. 2, n. 36. ¹⁸ Brit. Mus. Cart. Antiq. 58 D. 49. ¹⁹ Esc. 8 Eliz. n. 54. ²⁰ Esc. 14 Jac. p. 3, n. 105. ²¹ Hatton MSS. "Fin. 29 Edw. 1."

²² Vide MORTON, 1, p. 47. ²³ Vide BRACKLEY, 1, p. 561. ²⁴ Vide PLUMPTON. ²⁵ Vide HOUGHTON PARVA.

by service of 1d. yearly[†], from whom it descended to *George* lord *Zouch*, on whose decease in 13 Eliz. (1571) his manor of *Blakesley* and *Woodend* was found to be held of the queen as of the honor of *Peverel**. His son, *Edward* lord *Zouch*, in 23 Eliz. (1580) had licence to alienate it[‡], and in Hilary term following, by the style of lord *Zouch*, St. Maur, and *Cantelupe*, levied a fine of it to

Nicholas Benton or *Bainton*, gent.* who sold the royalty of the manor of *Zouch*, with view of frank pledge worth 5s. yearly[§], as in the *Bosco* inquisition in 5 Edw. 1, but did seized of a messuage and two virgates of land, held of the honor of *Peverel*, which descended to his son *Jerome Bainton*‡.

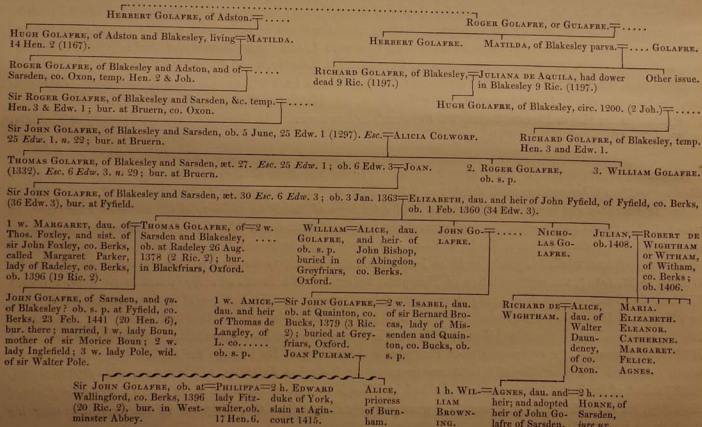
CHESTER FEE*, OR HONOR OF CHESTER*. In the Saxon era, *Ketel* had a portion of "Blaculeslea," within the soke of the royal manor of *Norton*, valued at 8s. yearly, both then, and at the domesday survey when it was held by *Robert* [de *Rotheleth*]*, of earl *Hugh* [of *Chester*], and consisted of half an hide. The arable land was one carucate and a half; of which two villeins had half a carucate, and the remainder was waste or unaccounted for^z.

COURCI OR CURCY BARONY†. GOLAFRE MANOR. *Robert* de *Rotheleth*, the domesday tenant, dying without issue, his lands escheated to the earl of *Chester*, as paramount lord. Amongst the feudatories of *William* de *Curcy*, dapifer, in the certificate of knights' fees in 14 Hen. 2 (1167) *Hugh* de *Gulafre* answered for three fees*, all of which will be subsequently appropriated, and one of them shewn to refer to *Blakesley*. In the hydryum of Hen. 2, *Roger Golafre* was returned to hold three hides and an half, and half a small virgate in "Blaculeslea." In 9 Ric. (1197) *Juliana* de *Aquila*, widow of *Richard Golafre*, released to *Hugh Golafre*, two parts of a fee here, which she claimed in dower[§], and in the Testa de *Nevill*, about 25 Hen. 3 (1240) *Richard Golafre* accounted for two parts of a fee here, of the fees of *Margaret Ripariis*[‡], the representative of *Courci*†. In 28 Edw. 1 (1300) *Thomas Golafre*, son and heir of *John Golafre*, gave £15 for his relief for three fees in "Certeodon" (*Sarsden*) in *Oxfordshire*, *Bluntesdon* in *Wiltshire*, and *Blaculeslea*, which his father and his ancestors held of *Isabella* de *Fortibus*, countess of *Albemarle*, of the honor of *Curcy*†. In 9 Edw. 2 (1315) [the late] *John Golafre*, of "Kersenden," now *Sarsden*, was returned one of the lords of *Blakesley*‡; and in 20 Edw. 3 (1346) *John* de *Twe*, *William* de *Budeston*, and *Geoffrey* *Phelp*, held three parts of half a fee here, of the fee of *Golafre*§. No document has been retrieved by which the further descent of the *Golafre* manor here can be traced, but it may be presumed to have remained with them, and the subjoined pedigree is therefore brought down to the extinction of the family.

GOLAFRE, OF BLAKESLEY AND ADSTON.

From *Leland's Itinerary*, with additions from public records.

Arms. Barry nebulee of six Argent and Gules, on a bend Sable three Bezants.



TERRA REGIS OF ANTIEN DEMESNE. ST. JOHN OF JERUSALEM MANOR. Another portion of "Blachesleue" was surveyed in Domesday as a member of the royal manor of *Norton*, without specifying its contents^h.

In the hydryum of Hen. 2, all "parva Blaculeslea" was certified to be in possession of *Norman* de *St. Patrie*‡, and half a hide in "alia Blaculeslea" which half hide can only apply to this portion of the vill, as the others are all appropriated by their respective tenures. It escheated, or otherwise passed, again to the crown prior to the reign of

* Esc. 19 Ric. 2, n. 52. * Esc. 15 Eliz. p. 2, n. 10. * Pat. 1 Dec. 23 Eliz. p. 12. * Hatton MSS. "Fin. Hil. 23 Eliz." * Esc. 12 Jac. p. 1, n. 140. * Esc. 15 Jac. p. 2, n. 114. * Domesd. p. 224 b. * Lib. Lig. 1. p. 90. * Cotl. MSS. Vesp. E. xxii. fo. 95 b. * Hatton MSS. "Fin. 9 Ric." * Test. Nev. fo. 103. * Abstract. Relat. Mich. 28 Edw. 1. * Cardigan MSS. "Nom. Vill." p. 8. * Isham MSS. No. 36. * Comp. Wall. Parishes" p. 199. * Domesd. p. 219 b. * Cott. MSS. Vesp. E. xxii. fo. 95 b. * Vide Desborough.

* Vide BODINGTON, 1. p. 478.

† Vide FARTHINGHO, 1. p. 619.

‡ Vide Desborough.

Henry 3; for there can be no doubt of this being the manor of "Blacovesley," with the park of "Hateshall," recorded to have been given by that king to the hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in England¹, which had previously obtained five virgates of land in "Magna Blacovesle" from Matilda Golafre, a messuage and two virgates of land from Peter Wodnam, a messuage, a mill, a virgate and a half, a wood, and holms from William de Plumtone, and two carucates of land in demesne, seven virgates in villenage, and a park worth 19 marks (£12. 13s. 4d.) yearly in "Parva Blacovesley" in exchange from Peter de Stokes², who, in 4 Joh. (1202) purchased all that vill for 50 marks (£33. 6s. 8d.) of Geoffrey son of Geoffrey de Norton, to hold by service of one fee, and a fee farm rent of 8½ marks (£5. 13s. 4d.) yearly to the said hospital³. In 35 Hen. 3 (1340) the prior and brethren of St. John of Jerusalem had a grant of free warren (*int. al.*) in Blacovelegh⁴; and a confirmation of the same privilege in 8 Edw. 1 (1280)⁵. In 9 Edw. 2 (1315) the prior was one of the lords of Blakesley⁶; and by an undated survey of the possessions of the hospital in this county, the manor of "Blacovesley" was found to consist of five carucates of land, £3 yearly rent from free tenants and villeins, and 13s. 4d. yearly rent out of certain tenements in Helmdon⁷. In 3 Edw. 3 (1329) the prior claimed (*int. al.*) view of frank pledge twice a year at Blakesley of his tenants there and at Boddington, Maidford, Croughton, Whitfield, Eydon, and Tiffield, when, it appearing that he punished transgressors against the assize of bread and beer by amercement of 21s. instead of the legal punishment of pillory and tumbrel, the view was taken into the king's hands, but restored again on payment of a fine of 60s.⁸ At the same time the prior substantiated his claim to free warren here by grant from king Henry (III.) great-grandfather of the king⁹. In 1 Hen. 8 (1509) Thomas Docwra, prior of the hospital, demised the manor and rectory of "Blacovesley, alias Blakysley," with pertinencies, (except wood and underwood and advowson of the vicarage, late held by John Taylor, under a demise from John Kendal, formerly prior, to John Wattes of Harrington, gent. for sixty years at a yearly rent of £30, to be paid to the prior, or to the preceptor of the preceptory of Melchbourn in Bedfordshire¹⁰). After the dissolution, the reversion was included in an extensive grant from Edward VI. to the princess Elizabeth for life¹¹, but resumed the following year; and in 7 Edw. 6 (1553) was, with the advowson of the vicarage) granted to John (Dudley), Duke of Northumberland¹², in exchange for the castle and manor of Tunbridge in Kent¹³.

The hospital was re-established by Philip and Mary in 1558, and most of the estates, including Blakesley, restored¹⁴; but it was again suppressed on the accession of Elizabeth, and in 2 Eliz. (1559-60) the reversion of the manor and rectory of "Blacoveley alias Blakesley," (reciting the above lease to John Wattes, and a subsequent one to sir John Clarke of Blakesley for twenty years from the expiration of the former one,) and the advowson of the vicarage, woods, underwoods, lands, and all other pertinencies and privileges, parcel of the late priory or hospital of St. John of Jerusalem, were granted to

Thomas Wattes, esq. in fee¹⁵. From him they lineally descended till the extinction of the male line in Edward Wattes, esq. whose daughter and heiress Mary, carried them in marriage to

The rev. John Pettyfer, vicar of the parish; and their daughter and heiress Maria Penelope Wattes transferred them in 1721 to her husband

William Wight, of Little Ilford in Essex, esq. whose second but eldest surviving son Henry Wight, esq. died without issue in 1793, having devised his estates to his sister dame Elizabeth Harrington for life, with remainder to his wife Susanna for life, who survived till 1823, when, under the limitations of her husband's will, the Blakesley estate passed to

John Wight Hibbit, esq. as representative of James Martin, the testator's first cousin. He has adopted the name of WIGHT, and is the present possessor (1833).

WATTS, PETTYFER OR PETTIFER, AND WIGHT, OF BLAKESLEY, 1833.

WATTS, from visitations, parish register of Blakesley*, and other authorities. WIGHT, from Bray's Survey, 2. p. 211, with additions.

Arms. WATTS: Ermine, on a chief Gules a Besant between two billets Or. Crest. A lozenge Gules between two wings expanded Or.

WIGHT

THOMAS WATTS, of London, =

JOHN WATTS, of Beby, co. Leic. and of Harrington, 1 Hen. 8 (1509), bur.* 5 Nov. 1547, =

1 W. AMPHILL, dau. of . . . Crouch, = THOMAS WATTS, of Blakesley, esq. ob. 22 Aug. = 2 W., dau. of . . . Solyard, of . . . , bur.* 30 Aug. 1569. 35 Eliz. (1593). Esc. 36 Eliz. p. 2. n. 87. Runwell, co. Essex, esq. ob. s. p.

WIGHT.

WILLIAM WATTS, of Blakesley, esq. ob. 30, Esc. 36 Eliz. ob. 16 June, = MARY, dau. of sir Edward Montague, of Boughton, lord chief just. of England.

THOMAS WIGHT, of Betchworth, co. Surrey, gent. living 1665.

EDWARD WATTS, = ELIZABETH, dau. of Blakesley, esq. of sir Ralph Coln's Inn, co. Middlessex, co. Hertford. b. 23 June 1574. Esc. 12 Jac. Myms, ob. 12 Jac. 1601.

2. MONTAGUE = DOROTHY, dau. of sir George Paul, of Lambeth, co. Surrey.

MARY, mar.* 4 Sept. 1598, ob. wife of Anthony Palmer, of Stoke Doyle, esq.

GABRIEL WIGHT, = MARY of Betchworth, co. Cam. Surrey, gent.

Wide Stoke DOYLE.

1. COXINGBY WATTS, dead s. p. 1661.

2. WILLIAM WATTS, of Blakesley, esq. 1661, ob. s. p.

3. EDWARD WATTS, of Blakesley, esq. dead 1686.

PHILIP, dau. of sir George Paul, of Lambeth, co. Surrey, living 1692.

2 h. BAR- THOLOMEW ELMES, esq. living 1692.

ELIZA- BETH. WATTS. GEORGE WATTS.

HENRY WIGHT, = MARGARET of Barking, co. Essex, bur. there 20 Dec. 1696.

1. JOHN WATTS, of Blakesley, esq. b. 23 Sept. 1670, bur.* 3 July 1735, s. p.

2. WILLIAM WATTS, ob. inf. bur.* 2 Feb. 1673-4.

MARY, sist. = Rev. JOHN PETTYFER, vicar of Blakesley, ob. 2 23 Sep. 1669, bur.* 7 Nov. 1733, s. p.

RICHARD PETTYFER, gent. ob. 20 Jan. 1729, at. 70; mar. Sarah, dau. of Lawrence Crawley, of Aspley, co. Belf. 1729, at. 64.

HENRY WIGHT, = SARAH, dau. of Wil- of Barking, co. Essex, esq. bur. there 13 July 1716.

* Mon. Aug. 2, p. 552.

* Ibid. p. 546.

* Dodsworth MSS. Pip. 4 Joh.

* Cart. 35 Hen. 3. m. 2.

* Cart. 8 Edw. 1. n. 43.

* Cartledge MSS. "Nom. Vill." p. 8.

* Rot. penes H. H. H. Hungerford. Arm.

* Quo Warr. 8 Edw. 3.

* Title deeds.

* Sept. 8 Edw. 6. p. 8.

* Pat. 2 Mar. 7 Edw. 6. p. 8.

* Pat. 2 Apr. 4 and 5 P. & M. p. 14.

* Pat. 14 Feb. 2 Eliz. p. 2.

* Vide FOXLEY.

REV. JOHN PETER, A.B. ob. N.p. & s.p. 21st Aug. bur.* 22nd Aug. 1716. et. 22.	MARIA PENE-LOPE WATTS, of Little Hord, co. Essex, and da. and heir, mar.* 12 Aug. 1721, bur. at Betchworth, co. Surrey, 24 Apr. 1762.	WILLIAM WIGHT, of Little Hord, co. Essex, and esq. Blakesley, esq. buried at Betchworth, co. Surrey, 24 Apr. 1737.	2. THOMAS WIGHT, of Bark- ing, co. Essex, esq. ob. s. p. May 1747, bur. there; mar. Cassandra, 3rd dau. of Theo- philus Leigh, of Adleshott, co. Glouce, esq. living 1772.	ANNE, born 1694, dead s. p. 1717. ELIZABETH, b. 1692, dead 1697. SARAH, bap. at Bark- ing 21st Feb. 1694; wife of Chas. Shep- hard.	2. ELIZA- BETH, bap. at Bark- ing 30th July 1699, dead 1761.	WILLIAM MARTIN, of London, ob. 30 Nov. 1760, et. 50, bur. at Fillington, co. Middlesex.
1. WILLIAM WIGHT, of Blakesley, esq. bap.* 16 July 1723, ob. unmar. 2 Sept. 1730. MARY, bap.* 29 Jan. 1723, ob. inf. JOHN and SARAH, twins, bap.* 8 Apr. bur.* 16 Apr. 1724. ELIZABETH, bap.* 10 Apr. 1726.	2. HENRY-SUSANNA, Wight, of dau. of Wm. Blakesley, parish, of esq. bap.* 17 Thorp-Ma- Oct. 1727, ob. devile, esq. sheriff co. bap. at We- Northamp. don Pinks- 1753, ob. ney 2 Sept. s. p. Aug. 1759, ob. at 1793, bur. Oxford 14 Jan. bur. at worth, co. Weldon 24 Jan. 1823.	MARIA PENE-LOPE WATTS, bap.* 13 Sept. buried 21 Sept. 1729.	ELIZABETH, bap.* 2nd=2 h. sir JAMES May 1732, ob. at Bour- ton, co. Glouce. 16 Apr. bur. at Merton, co. Ox- ford, 28 April 1794. 1 h. William Moore, of Rev. Robert, co. Glouce. and after of Newton, co. Somerset, gent. mar. 2 June 1755; 3 h. rev. John Chandler, of Bourton, co. Glouce.	2. h. sir JAMES HARRINGTON, PRELATE, dau. of Bourton, co. Glouce. bap. m. Feb. 1776, bur- died at Merton, co. Oxford, 3 Feb. 1782. HARRINGTON, of RIDING- ton, co. Rutl. now of BOUR- ton, co. Glouce. BART.	1 w. Ca- MARRINE, dau. of William Bour- chief, of Middle- St. Mar- tin's in the Fields, co. Middle- sex, 3 Feb. 1761, living 1796.	JAMES-SARAH, dau. of George of Lond. ob. 2 Feb. bur. at Fillington, co. Middle- sex, 3 Sept. 1761, living 1796.
1 h. FRANCIS-ANTHONY ROUGHMONT, bap. at St. Giles in the Fields, co. Middx. 17 Sept. 1762; obs. p. 1792. living 1808.	2 h. GEORGE CHARLOTTE WILKINS, esq. one of the Queen's pages, mar. at Cliswick, co. Middlesex, 26 Nov. 1795, ob.	ERNEST, esq. one of the Queen's pages, mar. at Cliswick, co. Middlesex, 26 Nov. 1795, ob.	2. SARAH, bap. at St. Martin's in the Fields, co. Middlesex, 16 Oct. 1762, mar. at Shore ditch, co. Middlesex, 19 Jan. 1790, ob. 23 Oct. 1814.	2. SARAH, bap. at St. Martin's in the Fields, co. Middlesex, 16 Oct. 1762, mar. at Shore ditch, co. Middlesex, 19 Jan. 1790, ob. 23 Oct. 1814.	WILLIAM-HENRY, 2 wife, ob.	

JOHN WIGHT HIBBIT, of Blakesley, esq. took the name of WIGHT only, by royal licence, 22 Sept. 1818.

Other issue.

A court leet and court baron is occasionally held for this manor with Zouch's manor.

DRYDEN ESTATE. Sir ERASMUS Dryden, bart. of CANONS ASHBY, in 21 Jac. (1623) settled on his youngest son Erasmus Dryden, esq. a capital message and eight yardlands, and another message and three yardlands in "Blacovislie, alias Blakeslie," which constituted the patrimony of his son John Dryden, esq. the celebrated poet, and continued in the family down to the late lady Dryden, who sold this estate, consisting of about 200 acres, in 1804 to William Edwards, gent. father of the present possessor.

THE MANOR HOUSES have all degenerated into farm houses; but there are several respectable residences in

THE VILLAGE, which is situated about five miles from Towcester and twelve from Northampton. In the time of Bridges it contained about two hundred families, amongst whom were sixty freeholders^b. By the census of 1801, Blakesley (and Woodend) contained 132 houses and 659 inhabitants; by that of 1811, 134 houses and 641 inhabitants; by that of 1821, 164 houses and 752 inhabitants; and by that of 1831, 107 houses and 527 inhabitants. The annual quota of land tax for this parish is £253. 7s. 4s. in the £. The estimated value of real property as assessed to the property tax of 10 *per cent.* for the year ending April 1815, amounted to £5,256. The poor rates for the year ending Easter 1832, raised £212. 13s. 3d. at 3s. in the £. The wake follows the assumption of the blessed Virgin.

THE ADVOWSON of the church of "Blacovlesley," and the chapel of "Minor Blacovlesley," were given by Hugh Golafre to the hospital of St. John of Jerusalem, in England^c, in the reign of Hen. 2; and passed with its other property here to the grantee after the dissolution, as already stated. The impropriate rectory has been alienated in parcels, but

THE ADVOWSON OF THE VICARAGE has accompanied the manor down to John Hibbit Wight, esq. the present patron.

THE RECTORY was rated in the taxation of 1291 (20 Edw. 1.) at 20 marks (£13. 13s. 4d.) *per ann.*^d; and at the ecclesiastical survey of 1535 (26 Hen. 8), the rectory of "Blaxley" was valued at £7. *per ann.* and the temporalities belonging to it at £23. *per ann.* but as it was appropriated to the prior of the hospital of St. John of Jerusalem, it was not entered under the deanery, but included amongst the lands and possessions of the prior^e. The parliamentary commissioners in 1655 certified it to be a parsonage impropriate, whereof there were divers owners, and worth about £40. yearly^f. The commissioners for inclosing Blakesley in 1760, allotted 106a. 3r. 20p. to William Pickering, esq. in lieu of the impropriate tithes of thirty-one yardlands and three quarters; the two remaining yardlands and certain other lands belonging to Henry Wight, esq. Sarah Higgins, widow, and the rev. Thomas Coleman Welch, being exempt from both impropriate and vicarial tithes. The commissioners for inclosing the hamlet and liberties of Woodend in 1779 made an allotment to Robert Ayers, gent. in lieu of the whole impropriate tithes of old as well as new inclosures, except of Long Piece and Short Piece, belonging to the rector of Plumpton, and the lands of Henry Wight, esq. which were tithe-free.

THE VICARAGE is in the deanery of Brackley. It was ordained by Robert de Chesney, bishop of Lincoln, between 1147 and 1167^g. In the taxations of 1254 (38 Hen. 3)^h, and of 1291 (20 Edw. 1.)ⁱ, it was rated at 64 marks (£4. 6s. 8d.) *per ann.*; and in the ecclesiastical survey of 1535 (26 Hen. 8), at £10. *per ann.* deducting 3s. for synodals and procurations to the archdeacon of Northampton^k. The parliamentary commissioners in 1655 certified that Mr. William Watts was patron of the vicarage, that Mr. William Letts the incumbent supplied the cure, and received the profits, which were about £15 yearly; and that there was no chapel of ease^l. It is a discharged living, being certified under

* Title deeds.

^b Br. 1. p. 231.

^c Mon. Ang. 2. p. 546.

^d Cott. MSS. Vesp. E. xij.

^e Augm. Off.

^f Lambeth

MSS. vol. 20.

^g Reg. Rob. Esq. Line in Rot. Inst. 8.

^h Cott. MSS. Nero D. 2. fo. 179.

ⁱ Tax. Eccl. p. 38.

^k Aug. Off.

^l Lambeth MSS. vol. 30.

the act 5 Anne (1707) to be only of the clear value of £39. 2s. 5d. *per ann.* The vicarage now consists of 65a. or 7p. allotted by the commissioners for inclosing Blakesley in lieu of glebe lands and of all vicarial tithes whatsoever of the open fields and old inclosures; 43a. 3r. 34p. allotted by the commissioners for inclosing Woodend in lieu of the vicarial tithes both of the open fields and old inclosures, and which, through exchanges for old inclosures under the act, was altered to 42a. Or. 19p.; and the vicarial tithes of Sewell and of that portion of Foxley which is within this parish. The vicar is also entitled to a share of the DUCHESS DUDLEY'S CHARITY*, and receives the dividends on £368. 15s. consols, being that part of the accumulated funds of the charity appropriated by the decree of chancery in 1826 to the improvement of the vicarage of Blakesley*.

The vicarage-house stands near the church.

VICARS. *Peter*, by the prior of the hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in England.

William de Melchburn, priest, 21 Mar. 1275.

Simon de Clifton, chaplain, 14 Oct. 1293; already noticed under Catesby.

Richard de Burncastre, chaplain, 2 July 1311.

Henry Plauette, priest, 27 Sept. 1322.

John Dayful de Wenslbury, 14 Apr. 1328.

Thomas de Eevere, priest, 16 Oct. 1336.

Reginald Outlaue de Brune, 3 Aug. 1341.

Richard de Doldford, 8 Dec. 1343.

John de Wrangill.

Robert de Daylington, priest, 20 Sept. 1351.

William Hunt.

Gilbert Coleman de Thornton, 15 Aug. 1363.

Hugh, son of *Richard Grene de Warkeneby*, 26 June 1375.

William Sleggh, priest, 18 Feb. 1384.

John Bereve, priest, 10 Oct. 1401.

Sir John Sweettenham, priest, 28 Mar. 1405.

Nicholas Lewy, 13 July 1407.

William Heyne, priest, 9 Mar. 1416.

Sir John Smyth, alias *Dene*, priest, 11 Nov. 1417.

Robert Hoyer, priest, 26 Jan. 1421.

William Stokton, priest, 26 Sept. 1437.

Walter Budd, priest, 28 Sept. 1440.

John Greyre, priest, 11 Mar. 1442.

Sir Thomas Terry, priest, 8 Mar. 1477.

Sir William Noone, priest, 1 Mar. 1492.

Sir Alexander Hyde, chaplain, 6 Apr. 1524.

Sir Henry Syfeld, 16 Sept. 1529.

Sir John Hinson. He was buried here 9 Oct. 1551^m, and *William Archebolde* was presented by William Astell,

esq. by grant from princess Elizabeth, daughter of Hen. 8, and instituted 17 Nov. 1551. He has previously occurred under Kisingbury. He was buried here 20 June 1568^m, and

John Watkins, A.M. was inst. 13th Oct. following, on the presentation of Thomas Watts, esq. He died the year following, when the same patron presented

William Saunders, who was inst. 2 Oct. 1559. He was buried here 18 Aug. 1585^m, and

Ambrose Hoske was inst. 19 Jan. 1585. He retained the incumbency for half a century, and was buried here 26 Mar. 1635^m, when

Nicholas Short, A.B. was presented by the king by lapse, and inst. 19 Nov. 1635.

William Letts occurs vicar in 1650 and 1655^a. On his resignation,

Theophilus Hart, A.M. was inst. 18 Nov. 1661, on the presentation of William Watts, esq. His immoral

life and violent death have been recorded under Wappenham. He was succeeded by

Timothy Hart, of New Inn Hall, Oxford, A.M. who was presented by John Watts, esq. and inst. 26 Mar. 1686. He was buried here 26 Mar. 1691^m, and

John Pettyfer was inst. 9 July 1692, on the presentation of John Watts, esq. and Bartholomew Elmes, esq. and Phillis his wife. By his marriage with Mary, the daughter and eventually heiress of Edward Watts, esq. he acquired the St. John of Jerusalem and Zouch manors, and the advowson of the vicarage with the lay impropriation of Foxley and Sewell. He was buried here 7 Nov. 1729^m, and

Richard Gilbert, A.B. previously noticed under Greworth, was presented by William Wight, esq. and inst. 30 June 1730. On his resignation,

John Fletcher, A.M. rector of Wappenham, was inst. 15 Mar. 1730-1, on the presentation of the same patron. His death introduced

David Pratt, of Oriel coll. Oxf. A.M. rector of Plump-ton, who was presented by Henry Wight, esq. a minor, with the consent of Penelope Watts Wight, his mother, and inst. 2 May 1744. He held both benefices till his death, when he was succeeded here by

Thomas Flesher, of Lincoln coll. Oxf. A.M. who was inst. 1 Dec. 1753, on the presentation of Henry Wight, esq. He was rector of Tiffield from 1778 to 1795. On his decease 7 Sept. 1796,

The Hon. Thomas James Twisleton, of St. Mary Hall, Oxf. A.M. 1796, D.D. youngest son of Colonel Twisleton, who in 1781 claimed and was allowed the barony of Say and Sele, was presented by Mrs. Susanna Wight, widow, and inst. 1 March 1797. He held the vicarage Woodford from 1796 to 1803, and was also rector of Broadwell cum Addlestrop in Gloucestershire. In 1801 he published "Self-sufficiency incompatible with Christianity," a visitation sermon preached at Daventry, 8vo. The following year he obtained the appointment of secretary and chaplain to the colonial government of Ceylon; in 1815, on the establishment of ecclesiastical dignities in the Indian settlements, he was selected for the archdeaconry of Colombo, and died 15 Aug. 1824, whilst on a tour in discharge of his clerical duties. His death was "severely felt in Ceylon, as well from affection to his person, as from the loss of his public services." He retained this benefice till his decease, and was succeeded by

George Steavright, of Trinity coll. Camb. LL.B. who was inst. 15 Feb. 1828, on the presentation of the king by lapse.

The REGISTERS commence in 1538, the year in which they were first appointed to be kept.

THE CHURCH, dedicated to the blessed Virgin, stands at the north end of the village, and consists of a tower containing five bells, nave, north and south aisles, south porch, and chancel. The whole is in the late Perpendicular style

* Par. Reg.

* Lambeth MSS. vol. 20.

* Memoir, Gents. Mag. 95, pt. i. p. 775.

* Vide p. 27.

with square-headed windows. The tower is 12 ft. long by 10 ft. 9. in. wide; the nave and south aisle 44 ft. 4 in. long, the nave 18 ft. 10 in., and the south aisle 13 ft. 11 in. wide; the south chantry chapel 15 ft. 11 in. long by 15 ft. 3. in. wide; the north aisle 42 ft. 11 in. long by 12 ft. 10 in. wide; and the chancel 24 ft. 4 in. long by 16 ft. wide. The interior is neatly paved and pewed, and has a west gallery. There is no font. The nave is divided from each aisle by three wide arches on multangular piers following the soffit mouldings to the base. The chancel is separated from the nave by a lofty arch on demi-circular columns with foliated capitals.

MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS.

I. NORTH AISLE. On a plain tablet against the east wall:

In Memory of SAMUELL SHEPPARD, Esq^r of Blisworth in Northampton-Shire, who departed this Life Octbr ye 22nd 1759, Aged 47 Years. He was a most Affectionate Husband, a Tender Father, A Good Master, And a Sincere Friend, who Married to His last Wife ANNE, Second Daughter of Sir JAMES CLARKE, Knt. of East Moulsey In ye County of Surry, who is Left to Lament his Death, And an only Son, SAMUELL SHEPPARD, now a Minor, AND Near this Place Lieth Interr'd

the Body of LUCY SHEPPARD, Wife of Mr. JOHN SHEPPARD, of Blisworth, And Eldest Daughter of LEWIS RYE, Esq^r of this Parish, and Mother to the above SAMUELL SHEPPARD, Esq^r she Departed this Life June ye 20th 1758, aged 75 Y—s.

SOUTH AISLE. Slabs for,

1. Mr. Richard Pettifer, 1729.

2. John Feary, 1700.

Mary, d. of John and Mary Feary, 28 June 1731. Joseph Feary.

3. Elizabeth, d. of J^{os} F. 23 Aug. 1755, æt. 30.

CHANCEL. On an alabaster and free-stone monument, with four small defaced kneeling figures against the north wall:

AN EPITAPHE UPON THE DEATH OF THAT WORTHIE GENTLEMAN MR. W. WATTES OF BLAXLYE, WHO DYED THE ANO DOMINI MDCXIV, XVI OF JUNE, IT IS NO MARBLE MONUMENT MUST GRACE HIS WORTHIE CORPS, WHO LYES WITHIN THIS PLACE; THE MANY GRACES WHICH DID HIM ADORNE IN YOUTH IN YEARES THESE WEAKER HELPS DOE SCORN, UPRIGHT HE WAS, AND ZEALOUS IN HIS LIFE, KINDE TO HIS CHILDREN, LOVING TO HIS WIFE.

4. On a large free-stone is the figure in brass about half the size of life, of Matthew Swetenham, esquire of the body and bow-bearer to king Henry IV. His connection with Blakesley cannot now be traced; but he had a lease of the neighbouring manor of Wedon Pinkeney from Anne, queen of king Richard II. in the 15th year of that reign. He is represented in a plain but beautiful specimen of the plate armour of the fifteenth century, with roundels in front of the pouldrons, escallop-shaped goussets, jointed gauntlets, tassettes of plain pendant plates, pointed greaves, and spurs with large rowels. At his left side a long sword is suspended from a transverse studded belt, and at his right side is the misericorde. His hands are elevated, and his feet rest on a lion. On a plate beneath: *Hic jacet Mathew Swetenham quondam portator arcus ac Armiger Illustrissimi Regis Henrici quarti qui obiit xij die mensis Decembris anno dni mccc lxxvi. cui. aet ppetit' b' s' ame'.*

5. Eliz. Wattes, 15 Jan. 1801, æt. 77.

6. Edward Wattes, 6th Aug. 1730.

Mary, d. of Edw. W. 8 July 1711.

7. Slab despoiled of brasses. On the remaining shield, a lion rampant and chief.

8. Here lieth ye Body of Mr. JOHN PETTYFER, A. B. de Lin. Coll. in Oxon, who departed ye Life Aug. ye 21st 1718, being ye 23^d year of his Age. He was Son of ye Revd. Mr. JOHN PETTYFER and MARY his Wife, and Grandson of EDWARD WATTES, Esq^r.

9. H. S. E.

JOHANNES PETTYFER, hujusce Edis Vicarius Sororis GULIELMI FOXLEY, Scholæ Grammaticæ Apud hanc villam Fundatoris, Nepos. Mariam Filiam unicam Edwardi Wattes Arm'. Uxorem duxit Ex qua Filium unum

unamq. Filiam suscepit;
Quorum { Johannes prope Patrem jacet
Penelope Superstes.
Annos Triginta Septem Munus Administravit
Officio^{rum} suo fungit pro viribus enixus est
Obiit 24th die Novembris,
Anno Salutis 1729,
Ætatis sue 64.
To this Tomb
is entrusted that half
of Mrs. MARY PETTYFER,
which was under the dominion
of the grave,
but gave reception to those virtues
of which the reward is
Immortal.

She was daughter of Edw. Wattes, esq.
and married to the Rev^d.
Mr JOHN PETTYFER,
some time Vicar of this Church.
Her good example
ceased on the 12th day of December
1753;
when her soul returned
to God who gave it,
and her body to the Earth
from whence it came,
Aged 81.

Bridges^a has given the following additional inscriptions from Belchier's collections:

In the middle ile upon a marble in brass, whereon are the portraits of six female children and a man between his two wives, with a label over their heads and four shields:

Orate pro animabus Thomæ Alen Devon Johanne ac Lucie

Uxorum ejus, qui quidem Thomas obiit 12 die Mensis Martii Anno Domini 1491, et predicta Johanna obiit 29 die Maii Anno Domini 1478, ac etiam predicta Lucia obiit die Mensis Anno Domini quorum animabus Propicietur Deus. Amen.

This inscription is now defaced.

Round the circumference of a marble near the reading desk, on which was the figure of a man placed under a windmill, arms and tablet:

*Man while the wynde bloweth looke that thou grynde,
And on thy owne soule alwey have in mynde;
Trust not to thy executors, for they be false,
Be that thou do*

Upon the tablet:

Orate pro Anima Johannis Aleyn nuper Prohib. Con.

Suff. in Comuni Banco, qui obiit die Anno Domini 1460, cujus animæ propicietur Deus. Amen.

In the chancel upon a marble on a brass tablet:

Here lieth Elizabeth Clerke, late wife of Sir John Clerke, Knt. which Elizabeth decessid the 5th day of February Anno Domini 1533, on whose soule Jesu have Mercy.

On a like marble in brass:

Orate pro animabus Johannis Foxley, Generosi, & Elizabethæ uxoris suæ, qui quidem Johannes obiit 9 die Mensis Januarii An. Dom. 1536, & Elizabetha obiit 4 die Mensis Julii An. Dom. 1535. Quorum animabus propicietur Deus. Amen.

In a high window in the middle ile of the church, a man and his wife kneeling, with this inscription:

Orate pro Animabus Willielmi & Elizabethæ consortis suæ qui hanc fieri fecit.

BENEFACTIONS (vide p. 1.) **GRAMMAR SCHOOL.** William Foxley, gent. by will dated 1 Jan. 1669-70, devised the reversion of the messuage and homestead wherein he dwelt at Blakesley, together with three yard-lands thereto belonging, after the decease of his sister, to Joseph Aris, William Randolph, sen. and the vicar of Blakesley, and the rectors of Maidford and Bradden, their heirs and successors, in trust, to "elect a fit and able scholar out of the university of Oxford or Cambridge that should have taken his degree of B. A. and should be orthodox in his opinion, and conformable to the doctrine and discipline of the church of England, and place or settle him in the said messuage as a schoolmaster to teach a grammar school there," and to receive the rents and profits "for his pains and encouragement, so long as he behave himself soberly and diligently in his place;" and further directed, that the school should be open and free for all the boys of the town and parish of Blakesley between seven and fifteen years of age, and that from time to time on the decease of the two lay trustees, the three clerical trustees should enfeof "two other honest, sober, and discreet persons."

The charity property and estate consists of a school, a dwelling house for the master, with seven or eight acres of land adjoining, and an allotment of 70 a. 2 r. 28 p. of land in lieu of the three yardlands. The house and land adjoining which is worth about 40s. an acre *per ann.* is in the occupation of the master, and the allotment is let for £85 *per ann.* The present master, the Rev. Francis Henry White, was appointed in 1810, and has expended a considerable sum of money in bringing part of the land into cultivation, and in repairing and making considerable additions to the school premises and buildings; and the property is subject to a mortgage or charge of £210 at 5 *per cent.* borrowed to defray the inclosure expenses. When he became master, he found that his predecessor had employed a substitute, who taught all the boys of the village reading, writing, and accounts, and he has since continued to employ a person for the same purpose. There are usually thirty boys in the school in winter, and twenty in the summer, who are taught gratuitously. The office of the master, if the school were kept up strictly as a grammar school, would probably become a mere sinecure.

POOR'S LAND. Bridges says, "Mr. Foxley gave likewise half a yardland to the vicar of *Blakesley*, and half a yardland for the benefit of the poor*." This last half yardland must be the poor's land, of which the commissioners for inquiring concerning charities report that "the mode of acquisition is unknown." It consists of 9a. 2r. 7p. of land allotted at the inclosure in lieu of half a yardland to the rev. Thomas Welsh as trustee for the poor of Blakesley; and is now let for £25 *per ann.*

CLEAVE'S CHARITY. "Thomas Cleave, citizen and haberdasher, of London, in 1638 gave fifty shillings a year to be laid out in bread, and given weekly to the poor*." This payment arose from half a yardland at Woodend, in lieu of which the commissioners of inclosure allotted 9a. 2r. 30p. which was exchanged for 8a. 1r. 23p. of old inclosure, and is let for £22 *per ann.* subject to a deduction of £1 a year for draining. The rents of the Poor's Land and Cleave's Land are laid out in the purchase of bread, which is distributed at the church among poor people of the township of Blakesley, the parish clerk receiving by custom a quarter loaf every Sunday on which bread is distributed.

DUCHESS DUDLEY'S OR BIDFORD CHARITY is omitted in the parliamentary return of 1787-1788. A brief account of this charity, which extends to several parishes in the counties of Warwick and Northampton, has been already given under *LITCHBOROUGH**. The commissioners for inquiring concerning charities have introduced in their 18th report a full and detailed statement of all the circumstances connected with this charity, and the legal proceedings arising out of its contingent provisions; by which it appears that, although the demands on the trust fund for the redemption of English Christian slaves from Turkish slavery fell far short of the receipts, no resort was had to the alternative application directed by the deed-poll of 24 April 1657; and consequently an accumulation of upwards of 17,000 3 per cent. consols took place. By a decree of Chancery in 1826, after a reference to the master, it was ordered that three-tenths of the accumulated fund should be applied to the improvement of the vicarages, and for the benefit of the present vicars, and the representatives of former vicars of Bidford and Blakesley, and the remaining seven-tenths for the benefit of the alms-poor of Stoneleigh, and the other poor of the several parishes of Stoneleigh, Kenilworth, Ashow, Leek Wootton, and Bidford, in the county of Warwick, and Litchborough, Blakesley, and Pateshull, in the county of

* Br. 1. p. 234.

* Vide vol. 1. p. 412.

Northampton, in the manner specifically set forth in the decretal order; and it was further ordered that seven seventeenths of the clear annual rents and profits of the estate accrued since Lady Day 1824, and of the future annual rents, should be paid to the several poor of the said parishes not receiving parochial relief, in the proportions before mentioned; and that, of the remaining ten seventeenths of the said rents accrued since Lady Day 1824, and of the future annual rents applicable for the redemption of English Christian slaves suffering slavery under the Turks (in case, at the end of one year after such rents should become due and be received, no claim for that purpose should be made upon the funds) three-seventeenths should be applied by the trustees for the benefit of the vicars of Bidford and Blakesley for the time being, and the remaining seven-seventeenths for the benefit of the poor of the several parishes interested in the charity, not receiving parochial relief, in the proportions directed in the deeds and will concerning the £100 *per ann.* intended for the redemption of slaves, in case no such slaves should be found.

In pursuance of the order of Chancery in 1826 the sums of £681. 15s. 7d. £368. 15s. and £11,916. 13s. 8d. consols, respectively appropriated by the decree to the improvement of the vicarages of Bidford and Blakesley, and to the benefit of the poor of the several parishes, were transferred to the trustees. The dividends upon the two former sums are paid to the respective ministers until the principal shall be laid out in the manner directed by the decree, and the dividends upon the latter sum divided among the several parishes, the share of Blakesley being £34. 0s. 10d. *per ann.* The present rental of the estate is £422 *per ann.* and the proportion of the rent paid to Blakesley for the last year was £13. 6s. 8d. exclusive of the same sum, by reason of there being no claim for the redemption of slaves.

LEVESON'S CHARITY. Its origin and general appropriation will be treated of at large in a subsequent page, under **FOXLEY.** The parish of Blakesley is entitled to £40 *per ann.* viz. £20 to be given to two widows, and £20 to place two poor boys apprentices to some honest calling; and, after payment of other specific bequests and charities, one third of the surplus rents and profits of the estate is to be distributed to and among the poorest sort of the inhabitants of the parish by the minister, churchwardens, and overseers of the poor. This share of the overplus money for several years prior to 1825 was £70, amounting with the original donation of £40 to £110 *per ann.* which was applied as follows. The parish is divided into Blakesley and Woodend, each of which separately maintains its own poor; £60 was apportioned to Blakesley and £45 to Woodend, and the remaining £5 was distributed among poor persons of both places, in the proportion of two thirds to the former and one third to the latter. In Blakesley, £15 yearly was paid for some time to each of two poor widows, and two sums of £15 were set apart yearly for apprenticing children, but of late there were four widows maintained, two of them with stipends of £13 and two of £10 each. In consequence of the want of application for the use of the apprenticing fund, it had increased in 1815 to £131. 1s. 3d. but by the allowance to the additional widows, the payment of two sums of £5 each yearly to the master of a Sunday school, four apprentice fees, and the application of money laid out in the purchase of clothes distributed among the poor, the fund was in 1825 reduced to £30. 19s. 3d.

In Woodend, for the last three years [prior to 1825] three poor widows received £15 each. Before the commencement of that period, the money destined to the purpose of apprenticing had accumulated to £60; but out of that fund £20 was laid out in apprenticing a boy, and £21. 13s. was expended in buying linen for the poor, by which means the balance in hand [1825] was reduced to £18. 7s.

The commissioners for inquiring concerning charities concluded their report by recommending that the overplus money should be distributed by the respective ministers, churchwardens, and overseers, amongst the poorest inhabitants in the Northamptonshire parishes of Litchborough, Blakesley, and Pateshull, according to the best of their discretion, and in such a way as not to be a substitution for parochial relief; as in their opinion the annuities paid to an additional number of widows in the parishes of Pateshull and Blakesley out of the surplus applicable to those particular parishes could not be maintained without injustice to the poorest inhabitants there, among whom generally the overplus was directed to be distributed.

Their suggestions have been adopted, and the surplus money for this parish now amounts to £90 *per ann.*

LEESON'S CHARITY†. The sum of £1. 10s. *per ann.* is received under this charity for the poor of Blakesley, and is given away with the sacrament money and the Bidford charity among the poor, in the proportions of two thirds to Blakesley and one third to Woodend.

KNIGHTLEY CHARITY. Blakesley is included in the parishes to each of which the late sir John Knightley, bart. bequeathed £200 for the support of a Sunday school. The fund appropriated under the direction of the Court of Chancery to answer this bequest consists of £191. 17s. 3 per cent. consols.

WOODEND

Forms the south-western division of the parish, and contains, exclusive of Green's Park and Kirby grounds which are considered within its limits, about 990 acres, of which about 340 acres are old inclosure, and the remainder were inclosed by act of parliament 19 Geo. 3 (1779). About 220 acres belong to Jesus college, Oxford, about 150 acres each to John Hibbitt Wight, esq. and Mr. Joseph Lem, about 200 acres to Mr. John Capron Smith, of Northampton, about 100 acres to Miss Checkley, and nearly 100 acres to Mr. Augustus Kymes, of Chetwode in Buckinghamshire.

† Vide **ARTHUR.**

The soil is principally clay, with a substratum of limestone, which is used for agricultural purposes and the repair of roads. More than three fourths of the lordship is in permanent pasture.

Woodend has a separate highway rate, maintains its own poor, and appoints its own churchwarden.

MANORIAL HISTORY. HONOR OF PEVEREL*. That portion of "Blaculveslea" which was subsequently called Wood Blakesley, Little Blakesley, and Woodend, belonged to *Githa*† in the time of Edward the confessor; and at the domesday survey was held by one *Walter* under William Peverel. It contained two hides. The arable land was five carucates, of which two were in demesne with two servants, and five villeins had two others, leaving one waste or unaccounted for. There was a mill worth 5s. yearly, an acre of meadow, and a wood three furlongs long, and one broad. The whole had been rated at 10s. yearly, but was then quadrupled in value*.

ST. JOHN OF JERUSALEM MANOR. In the hydarium of Hen. 2, *Norman de St. Patric*† was certified to hold two hides in "Parva Blaculvesle" of the honor of Peverel, and one hide and seven small virgates and a half belonging to the hidage of Norton^b. His interest must very shortly after have been transferred to the Golafrés, for in 9 Ric. (1197) *Juliana de Aquila* levied a fine of one fee in "Parva Blaculvesle" which she claimed in dower from her late husband Richard Golafré, to *Geoffrey*, son of *Geoffrey de Norton*^c, who in 4 Joh. (1202) sold this vill to *Peter de Stokes* for 50 marks (£33. 6s. 8d.) to hold by the service of one fee, and a fee-farm rent of 8½ marks (£5 13s. 4d.) yearly to the hospital of St. John of Jerusalem^d. In the inquisition of forfeited honors 13 Joh. (1211) Geoffrey de Norton was found to have held one fee here of the honor of Peverel, then belonging to that hospital. In various parts of the Testa de Nevill in the reign of Hen. 3, the prior of the hospital answered for this fee of the same honor^e, and in 47 Hen. 3 (1262) John de Stokes released his right in Blaculvesle manor by fine to Robert de Manneby, prior of the hospital of St. John of Jerusalem^f; from which period its descent has been anticipated‡.

BLAKESLEY PARK OF GREEN'S PARK. The Knights Hospitallers or Templars in 9 Joh. (1207) § were fined a hundred marks (£66. 13s. 4d.) for keeping a pack of dogs without the king's leave, and killing game in Blakesley park. In 26 Eliz. (1583) sir John Spencer, of ALTHORP, settled Green's Park with other lands in Blakesley and Woodend on his second son Thomas Spencer, esq. of Claverdon, in Warwickshire^h. This estate afterwards belonged to the Danvers family of Swithland in Leicestershire, and was sold in 1797 under the description of the manor of Green's park, containing 196 acres in Blakesley and Wappenham by the hon. Augustus Butler Danvers, who married Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of sir John Danvers, bart. to Mr. Henry Spencer, father of the present proprietor.

ASHBY PRIORY LANDS. The Plumpton estate § extended into Woodend. Robert de Plumpton, for the health of his soul and the souls of Alicia his wife and William his son, gave to the priory of Canons Ashby all his land called "Holdelonde," near the west field of "Wodeblaculvesle"ⁱ; and his representative William St. John and Ismania his wife, by fine in 9 Hen. 3 (1254) released to Adam, prior of Ashby, a message and six virgates, for which recognition of title they were received into the benefits of the prayers of the canons^k. Robert Russell, of "Wodeblaculvesle," for 40s. granted to the priory all his lands there which was of his mother's dower^l. Richard de Wandeville gave 6s. yearly to the great light of the altar^m. Alice, daughter of William Anger, of Blaculvesle, gave a message and lands in "Wodeblaculvesle" for providing a wax taper before the image of the blessed Mary in the choir of the conventual church at Ashby, and William, son of William de Anger, confirmed his sister's grantⁿ. In the ecclesiastical survey of 1535 (26 Hen. 8) the temporalities of Ashby priory in "Blaculvesle and Woodhynd" were rated at £5. 0s. 10d. yearly, and in the minister's accounts prior to the dissolution, at £3. 12s. 10d. viz. in free rents £1. 11s. 2d. and in rents of messages and lands £2. 1. 8d.^o. They were partly granted in 35 Hen. 8 (1543) to Richard Andrew and Nicholas Temple, and the remainder in 6 Edw. 6 (1552) to Henry duke of Suffolk^p, of whom Laurence Washington, esq. of SULGRAVE, purchased a wood in Blakesley, called "Great Cames and Little Cames".

THE MANOR HOUSE of St. John of Jerusalem is situated in Woodend near the brook, which divides it from Blakesley. There are slight traces of antiquity at the back of the house, but it was nearly re-built by the Wights.

THE VILLAGE of Woodend green is south of the mansion. In the census of 1801 the population was included in Blakesley return; by that of 1811 it contained 44 houses and 254 inhabitants; by that of 1821, 63 houses and 289 inhabitants; and by that of 1831, 65 houses and 302 inhabitants. The poor's rates for the year ending Easter 1832 raised £307. 7s. at 4s. in the £.

LENTON PRIORY near Nottingham. Many of the feudatories of William Peverel the founder, with the sanction of their lord, contributed a portion of their titles, and Norman de St. Patric gave two parts of the tithe of all his demesnes in "Dereshurch" (Desborough), "Blacol Wesleia" and in "Rauland"§ (qu. where?) The grant, from the attestation of Gerard, archbishop of York, may be placed between 1101 (1 Hen. 1) and 1108, but, so far as relates to this place, was probably resisted or withdrawn by the successor of the grantee, as there was no reserved pension to the priory out of the church of Blakesley.

* Domesd. fo. 226.

^b Cott. MSS. Vesp. E. xxij. fo. 95.

^c Hatton MSS. "Fin. 9 Ric."

^d Dodsworth MSS. "Pp. 4 Joh."

* Test. Nev. fo. 104, 124, 158, and 163. ^e Hatton MSS. "Fin. 47 Hen. 3." ^f Br. 1. p. 231. Rot. Pip. anno 9 Joh. ^g Eec. 29 Eliz.

n. 258.

^h Canons Ashby Cartulary, fo. 61.

ⁱ Ibid. fo. 178.

^j Ibid. fo. 64.

^k Ibid. fo. 66.

^l Augm. Off.

^m Pat. 3 Aug. 35 Hen. 8. p. 1.

ⁿ Pat. 16 May, 6 Edw. 6. p. 2.

^o Eec. 26 Eliz. n. 179.

^p Mon. Ang. 1. p. 646.

^q Vide Dutton, 1. p. 138. ^r Vide Desborough. ^s Vide p. 22. ^t Vide p. 21.

THE CHAPEL of "Minor Blacvolresla," of which no trace remains, not improbably stood in that part of Woodend denominated

KIRBY,

a contraction of Kirkbye, the place of the church. It is now generally called Kirby Grounds, and consists of about 580 acres of old inclosure, of which about 220 acres belong to Mr. Joseph Wakefield, of Potocote.

KIRBY is not noticed in Domesday, and first occurs in the "Nomina Villarum" of 9 Edw. 2 (1315) when the prior of St. John of Jerusalem was certified to be lord of it¹. In 35 Edw. 3 (1361) *John de Brandeston* died seised (*int. al.*) of a messuage and a carucate of land in Kirby, held of the prior of the hospital of St. John of Jerusalem by service of 3s. 4d. yearly, and suit at his court at Blakesley every three weeks, leaving *Thomas de Wolphamcote*, son of Joan, sister of Richard Brandeston his father, aged 48, *John de Ashley*, son of Margaret, another sister of the said Richard, aged 23, *Agnes de Foxley*, daughter of John Foxley, son of Eleanor, another sister of the said Richard, aged 15, and *John Makesley*, son of Richard Makesley, son of Margaret, another sister of the said Richard, aged 13, his cousins and heirs². On partition of his lands, this estate was assigned to Agnes de Foxley and John Makesley³, and probably on failure of issue in Agnes de Foxley, was inherited by the male line of the Foxleys of FOXLEY, as it occurs in their inquisitions down to the time of queen Elizabeth⁴.

KIRBY is traditionally supposed to have been a considerable village, though now reduced to a single house.

FOXLEY,

literally—the field of foxes—but whatever might have been its primitive significancy, it has now no peculiar claim to the appellation. It consists of about 483 acres of old inclosure; of which about 281 acres are in Blakesley parish, about 149 acres in Pateshull parish, and about 53 acres in Litchborough parish, and the whole is the property of the trustees of the Foxley charity, founded by lady Katherine Leveson.

The circumstance of Norton hundred having been originally designated from Foxley, and the anomalies connected with this depopulated vill, are detailed in the introduction to the hundred⁵, and need not therefore be here repeated. The mill is in the Litchborough portion.

MANORIAL HISTORY. MORETON FEE[†]. The portion of "Foxeslea," belonging to Blakesley parish, was the Saxon freehold of *Merefin*, and was surveyed under "Tovecester" hundred in domesday. It was then held by *Ralph* of the earl of Moreton, and contained four parts of half a hide. The arable land was one carucate, which lay waste, but the whole was valued at 5s. yearly[‡].

HONOR OF BERKHAMPTSTED[‡]. In the hydarium of Hen. 2, earl Maurice was certified to hold four small virgates in "Foxleya" of the fee of Berkhamptsted[§], and in the account of the scutage of that honor in the Testa de Nevill about 19 Hen. 3 (1235) Foxley is associated with Blakesley[¶]. By the inquisition after the death of the late prince of Wales in 2 Ric. 2 *John de Foxley* was found to hold two fees in Blakesley and Foxley[¶]. His descendants are lost sight of in records for nearly two centuries, but emerge again in the reign of Hen. VIII. having in the mean time acquired the two other portions of Foxley, which were of the

WAHULL OR WODHULL FEE[§], but whether of the original fee of Walter Flandrensis[§] in Pateshull, or an early subinfeudation from the Moreton fee, must be left to conjecture. In the hydarium of Hen. 2, *Simon de Wahull* was certified to hold four small virgates, and the monks of Northampton six small virgates in "Foxleya[¶]." The former of these divisions was, I apprehend, included in the estate which *William de St. John* || in 32 Edw. 1 (1303) was found to hold in Plumpton and Foxley of Thomas de Wahull by service of half a fee[¶], and his grandson, sir *Giles de St. John* || in 45 Edw. 3 (1371) of John de Wodhull by the same service[¶]. The latter division formed

ST. ANDREW'S PRIORY MANOR. The confirmation charter of Henry I. to St. Andrew's priory in Northampton between 1117 and 1128, recites the land in "Foxle" of the gift of Adelulph[¶]. Walter de Wahull, in the reign of Hen. 2, confirmed to the monks of St. Andrew the land which they had of his fee in "Foxleia" of the gift of Othbert and Adelulph his son[¶]. Othbert held lands in Horton under Walter Flandrensis at the domesday survey[¶]; and Adelulph occurs in Whitfield by the name of Arnulph de March[¶]. Roger de Foliot, with the assent of Rohesia his

¹ Cardigan MSS. "Nom. Vill." p. 2. ² Esc. 9 Edw. 3. n. 6. ³ Esc. 9 Ric. 2. n. 113. ⁴ Esc. 28 Hen. 8. n. 66, & Esc. 5 Eliz. p. 1. n. 52. ⁵ Domesd. fo. 223 b. ⁶ Cott. MSS. Vesp. E. xlij. fo. 96. ⁷ Test. Nev. fo. 131. ⁸ Esc. 2 Ric. 2. n. 57. ⁹ Esc. 32 Edw. 1. n. 45. ¹⁰ Esc. 45 Edw. 3. n. 47. ¹¹ Cott. MSS. Vesp. E. xvij. fo. 13 & 13b. ¹² Ibid. fo. 131. ¹³ Domesd. fo. 226 b. ¹⁴ Vide p. 1. ¹⁵ Vide BUCKROOK, I, p. 129. ¹⁶ Vide p. 21. ¹⁷ Vide THORNTON, I, p. 711. ¹⁸ Vide PLUMPTON. ¹⁹ Vide vol. I, p. 754.

honors, together with Warwick castle and an extensive estate, the earl's widow exhibited a bill in the star chamber against him and his associates for a conspiracy to defame her character and deprive her of her right; and though the balance of evidence preponderated decidedly in his favor, the lords, of the council ordered further proceedings to be stayed, and the depositions to be returned sealed up into the star chamber. Disappointed and indignant, he quitted the kingdom, was outlawed, and never returned, leaving his wife and family behind; but taking with him the beautiful daughter of sir Robert Southwell, whom he afterwards married in Italy during the life of his legal wife; thus imitating the base and heartless conduct of his father, though the source of the injustice towards himself which he so deeply felt and resented. In 1620 the emperor Ferdinand 2d conferred on him the title of a duke of the Holy Roman empire, to be used by himself and his heirs throughout the dominions of the sacred empire, and he was thenceforward generally called the duke of Northumberland. Twenty-four years after, king Charles I. by letters patent, reciting the suit in the star-chamber, the sacrifices made by sir Robert and lady Alice in alienating Kenilworth castle, his elevation to a dukedom by the emperor Ferdinand, and that "our dear father not knowing the truth of the lawful birth of the said sir Robert (as we piously believe) granted away the titles of the said earldoms to others, which we now hold not fit to call in question, nor ravel into our deceased father's actions; and yet we having a very deep sense of the great injuries done to the said sir Robert Dudley and the lady Alice Dudley and their children; and that we are of opinion that in justice and equity the possessions so taken from them do rightly belong unto them, or full satisfaction for the same; and holding ourselves in honor and conscience obliged to make them reparation now as far as our present ability will enable us;" and for further considerations therein stated, granted to the said lady Alice Dudley the title of DUCHESS DUDLEY for her life in England, with such precedencies as she might have had if she had lived in the dominions of the sacred empire, and to her daughters, lady Katherine, wife of sir Richard Leveson, K.B. and lady Mary, wife of Robert Holburne, esq. the place and precedencies of the said duke's daughters as from the time of their said father's creation during their respective lives.

The charities of the duchess were most munificent, and the parishes of Blakesley, Pateshull, and Litchborough in this county reap no small share of her bounty.

She died on the 22d of Jan. 1668-9 at the advanced age of ninety years, and by her will, dated the 2d of Nov. preceding, devised this manor to her only surviving child and "most dear daughter lady Katherine Leveson."

DUDLEY, DUKE OF NORTHUMBERLAND, EARL OF WARWICK, EARL OF LEICESTER; DUCHESS DUDLEY, &c.

From Dugdale's Baronage, with additions and corrections from public records, monuments, and other authorities.

Arms. Or, a lion rampant double guazé Vert.

JOHN DUDLEY, esq. 2nd son of John baron Dudley—ELIZABETH, dau. and coh. of John Bromshol, of Bromshol, co. Hants; esq. ob. 12 Oct. 14 Hen. 7 (1496). (vide ABSTON, vol. 1. p. 470).

Esc. 24 Hen. 7. *u.*

EDMUND DUDLEY, esq. 36, *Esc.* 14 Hen. 7; attainted—ELIZABETH, dau. of Edward and sist. and coh. of John (Grey) viscount Lisle, and lineal representative of the duke of Northumberland, *Pat.* 12 Mar. 24 Hen. 8 (1532-3), EARL of Northumberland, *Pat.* 11 Oct. 5 Hen. 8 (1510), and beheaded on Tower-hill 28 Aug. 1510. eldest coh. s. of Beauchamp earl of Warwick. 2 h. Arthur (Plantagenet) natural son of K. Edw. 4, viscount Lisle, K.G. ob. s. p. m.

1. JOHN DUDLEY, born 1502; restored in blood by act of parliament—JANE, dau. and h. of sir Edward Guilford, by Eleanor, 2. SIR ANDREW DUDLEY, K.G. &c. attainted and condemned 12 Mar. 1533, pardoned Oct. 1554, ob. in London 1559. 3. JEROME DUDLEY, attainted 1 Mar. 1533, ob. 2 Edw. 6 (1548). 4. ELIZABETH, coh. 1 w. of William 6th baron Stourton, ob. 2 Edw. 6 (1548).

STOURTON, BARON STOURTON.

1. HENRY DUDLEY, slain at Boulogne 1543, att. 19. 4. SIR AMBROSE DUDLEY, born 1530 or 1531, attainted 1 Mar. 1533, restored in blood by act of parliament 4 & 5 Ph. & Mar. (1557). BARON of Lisle and EARL of Warwick, *Pat.* 25 & 26 Mar. 1557. K.G. &c. ob. s. p. in condemned 1st Mar. 1553, in Beauchamp chapel, pardoned 19th Oct. ob. s. p. at Penshurst, co. of Kent, 21 Oct. 1554, att. 24. 5. SIR AMBROSE DUDLEY, born 1530 or 1531, attainted 1 Mar. 1533, restored in blood by act of parliament 4 & 5 Ph. & Mar. (1557). BARON of Lisle and EARL of Warwick, *Pat.* 25 & 26 Mar. 1557. K.G. &c. ob. s. p. at Penshurst, co. of Kent, 21 Oct. 1554, att. 24. 6. WALTER DUDLEY, earl of Essex, K.G. ob. 22 Sept. 1576. 7. HENRY DUDLEY, attainted 1 Mar. 1533, ob. 2 Edw. 6 (1548). 8. CHARLES DUDLEY, attainted 1 Mar. 1533, ob. 2 Edw. 6 (1548). 9. ROBERT DUDLEY, attainted 1 Mar. 1533, ob. 2 Edw. 6 (1548). 10. SIR ANDREW DUDLEY, K.G. &c. attainted and condemned 12 Mar. 1533, pardoned Oct. 1554, ob. in London 1559. 11. JANE, dau. and h. of sir Edward Guilford, by Eleanor, 12. SIR ANDREW DUDLEY, K.G. &c. attainted and condemned 12 Mar. 1533, pardoned Oct. 1554, ob. in London 1559. 13. JEROME DUDLEY, attainted 1 Mar. 1533, ob. 2 Edw. 6 (1548). 14. ELIZABETH, coh. 1 w. of William 6th baron Stourton, ob. 2 Edw. 6 (1548). 15. STOURTON, BARON STOURTON. 1. MARY, ob. 9 August 1560; w. of sir Henry Sidney, K.G. of Penshurst, co. Kent, 12 Mar. 1557; mar. 5 May 1560. 2. KATHERINE, mar. 1553, ob. 14 Aug. 1600; w. of Henry 4th earl of Huntingdon, K.G. ob. 14 Dec. 1595. 3. HENRY DUDLEY, attainted 1 Mar. 1533, ob. 2 Edw. 6 (1548). 4. CHARLES DUDLEY, attainted 1 Mar. 1533, ob. 2 Edw. 6 (1548). 5. ROBERT DUDLEY, attainted 1 Mar. 1533, ob. 2 Edw. 6 (1548). 6. SIR ANDREW DUDLEY, K.G. &c. attainted and condemned 12 Mar. 1533, pardoned Oct. 1554, ob. in London 1559. 7. 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should be resident, viz. to two widows inhabiting in the parish of Blakesley, to two widows in Pateshall, to two widows in Litchborough, being the three parishes in which the said manor of Foxley lieth in the county of Northampton; to three widows in Lilleshall in Shropshire, and to three widows in Trentham in Staffordshire; and that the minister, churchwardens, and overseers should buy for every such widow, out of the said respective yearly sums of £10 as often as there should be need and occasion, "one gown of grey cloth, upon the breast of which gown two letters, viz. K. L. in blue cloth should be set, which gowns and letters thereupon should be constantly worn by such widows," and any widow refusing to wear the gown should lose the benefit of the charity, and another be put in her place; and if at any time it should happen that there should not be found in any of the said parishes the full number of widows so poor as to be capable of the gift, then there should be from time to time, during such want only, another poor widow or widows, inhabiting on the lands within such part of the parish of Itchington in Warwickshire as then belonged to her, nominated and appointed by the ministers, churchwardens, and overseers of the poor, or the majority of them, which widows should respectively receive £10 yearly in manner aforesaid; and on further trust, that the yearly sum of £100 more out of the rents and profits should be employed for ever for placing out ten poor boys apprentices yearly "to some honest calling," six of the boys to be children of the inhabitants of the said three parishes within which the said manor of Foxley lieth, two boys in each of the three parishes respectively, two other boys out of the parish of Trentham, and the remaining two boys out of the parish of Lilleshall, to be chosen and placed out by the ministers, churchwardens, and overseers of the respective parishes, or the majority of them, and £10 to be allowed for each boy; and on further trust, that after all taxations, assessments, and payments should be discharged, then the yearly sum of £40 out of the residue of the rents and profits, or so much as the same should amount unto in case it fell short of that sum, should for ever be employed "for the repairs of the [Beauchamp] chapel on the south side of the choir of (St.) Mary in Warwick where her ancestors were interred," and the overplus, if any, after repairing the chapel, should be distributed "amongst the poor brethren of the hospital at Warwick, founded by the earl of Leicester, her grandfather;" and she nominated and appointed the Mayor of Warwick and his successors, and William Dugdale, esq. then king at arms (afterwards sir William Dugdale, knight) and his heirs, to be overseers for ever of the repairs of the said chapel, and of the disposing of the overplus; and on further trust, that after all the said gifts and payments should from time to time be discharged, then, if there should be an overplus arising out of the rents and profits, "the same should from time to time be yearly distributed to and amongst the poorest sort of the inhabitants of the said three several parishes within which the said manor or lordship of Foxley lieth, by the ministers, churchwardens, and overseers of the poor of the said several parishes for the time being respectively, or the greater number of them." And the testatrix directed that the trustees should convey the said manor and premises to the use of themselves and their heirs, and of such other persons as they should think fit (the lord bishop of Peterborough for the time being to be one, and also some persons inhabiting in the several parishes where the charitable gifts were to be received) to the uses and purposes above mentioned.

By an act of parliament 12 Geo. 3 (1772) reciting the original bequest, and the appointment of fifteen new trustees in 1771, it was enacted that the surviving trustees, together with such other persons residing in or near the several parishes which were the object of the said charity (not exceeding in the whole the number appointed by the recited indenture) as they or any seven or more of them should from time to time elect, were thereby declared to be one body politic and corporate, by the name of "The trustees of the Foxley Charity founded by the Lady Katherine Leveson of Trentham in the county of Stafford," and by that name should have perpetual succession, and a common seal, with power to make bye-laws and regulations for the management of the estate, and to appoint a receiver of the rents; and that the coheirs of sir William Dugdale, then deceased, should be discharged from the trust, and that Richard Geaste of Blyth Hall in Warwickshire, esq. son and heir apparent of Jane Geaste [one of the coheirs], who inherited the estate and bore the arms of the said sir William Dugdale, should be an overseer of the repairs of the chapel and for the disposal of the surplus in the room of the said coheirs, and that he and his heirs male should have power to act with the mayor of Warwick for the time being; but in case of minority or other disability in his heirs male, the trustees might appoint some other person and his heirs male, "so that in such election due regard be had to the descendants of the said sir William Dugdale;" and whereas the said chapel was no place of public worship, but had only been used as a place of interment of the ancestors of lady Katherine Leveson and others, to whose memory several ornamental monuments stood erected, and several other ornaments had from time to time been made in and about the chapel, which required a constant expense to keep in proper repair; and whereas doubts might arise whether any of the monies directed to be applied for repairing the chapel could be applied in preserving the monuments and ornaments, it was enacted that the overseers for the time being should be authorised to apply the money directed to be applied towards repairing the chapel, or so much as they in their discretion think proper, "as well in preserving, maintaining, and keeping up the beauty and elegance of the chapel and the monuments and ornaments therein, as in the necessary repairs of the said chapel, and likewise in adorning, preserving, and maintaining any other monuments which may hereafter be erected and set up within the said chapel."

By another act of parliament 34 Geo. 3 (1794) reciting the former act, and that the trustees being reduced to six, they were not legally enabled to elect new trustees, and the corporation was in danger of being dissolved, it was enacted that Granville marquiss of Stafford, and sixteen others therein named, and such other persons residing in or near the several parishes which were the object of the said charity (not exceeding in the whole the number appointed by the present act) as they or the major part of them for the time being, at any meeting assembled, should from time to time elect, should be one body politic and corporate, by the same name as before and with the same powers.

For some time before the year 1805, a gentleman practising as a solicitor at Newcastle-under-Line (most of the trustees residing in Staffordshire) was the receiver of the rents of this estate. The several yearly sums given by the codicil to poor widows and for putting out apprentices, appear to have been regularly paid before that year; but no overplus or remainder of the rents, after payment of the specified sums, was distributed in the manner directed, although the rents exceeded those specific sums. In 1804 Mr. Richard Howes, of Northampton, solicitor, a native of

the parish of Pateshull, at the request of some of the inhabitants of the Northamptonshire parishes, made application to Mr. Cartwright, M.P. one of the trustees, and through him to the marquis of Stafford, who had been the principal acting trustee, for information on the subject of the trust, and it was ultimately proposed by the marquis, and agreed, that as the surplus rents were applicable to the benefit of the poor inhabitants of the Northamptonshire parishes only, Mr. Cartwright, who resided in the county of Northampton, should take upon himself the principal management of the trust, and Mr. Cartwright eventually accepted the office, and Mr. Howes was appointed receiver of the charity estates. No regular account was obtained of the previous application of the surplus rents, but it was represented to Mr. Howes that they had been exhausted by the expense of procuring the two acts of parliament, and by other expenses attending the execution of the trust. The present gross rental of the estate (1833) is £710 *per ann.* After payment of the specific bequests, £90 is paid to each of the three parishes of Litchborough, Blakesley, and Pateshull, out of the surplus rents, and the residue is reserved for land tax, repairs, and other contingent expenses.²

The present trustees are George-Henry duke of Grafton, Granville-Leveson earl Granville, Herbert bishop of Peterborough, William lord Bagot, Robert lord Wenlock, the hon. Henry Hely Hutchinson, sir John Wrottesley bart. M.P., the rev. sir Henry Dryden bart., sir Charles Knightley bart., John Beaulier esq., Thomas Carter esq., William Ralph Cartwright esq. M.P., Dugdale Stratford Dugdale esq., William Stratford Dugdale esq. M.P., William Grant esq., and Thomas Swinerton esq. The vacancy occasioned by the death of the late duke of Sutherland has not yet been supplied.

SEWELL

forms the south-west angle of Blakesley parish. It consists of two farm-houses with about 470 acres of land, including 80 acres of wood, and is the property of George-Henry duke of Grafton.

MANORIAL HISTORY. TODENI FEE*. HONOR OF BELVOIR*. The Saxon proprietor of "Sewelle" is not recorded, but it was rated at 10s. yearly, and at the domesday survey was valued at 60s. such an extraordinary increase as to lead to a suspicion of the correctness of the figures. It was then held by *Robert de Toden*, and contained three hides and four parts of a virgate. The arable land was seven carucates, of which one and a half were in demesne with two servants, and eight villeins and three bordars had three and a half; leaving two waste or unaccounted for. There was a mill worth twelve pence yearly, seven acres of meadow, and a wood two furlongs and a half long, and two furlongs wide.^a

Belvoir Castle, on the borders of Leicestershire and Lincolnshire, was the head of Robert de Toden's barony. His son assumed the name of *Albini* which was adopted by his posterity; and the paramountcy of Sewell continued to be recognised in the inquisitions of the family of *Ros* or *Roos*, as their representatives^b. In the hydarium of Hen. 2 one hide and six small virgates in "Sewelle" were certified to be in possession of *Ralph*^c, who was evidently the same individual as occurs in Braden by the name of *Ralph de Waundeville*^d. In the Testa de Nevill, about 19 Hen. 3 (1235), *Geoffrey de Waundeville* paid 8s. 11d. scutage for two parts of a fee in "Seuewelle," of the fees of William de Aubeny^e, and in about 27 Hen. 3 (1242) was returned to hold two parts of a fee in "Seuewelle," Braden, and Everdon, of the fees of [the late] William de Albini, of the honor of "Beauvoir^f," or Belvoir. In 24 Edw. 1 (1295) *Richard de la Hay* and *Roger de Branneste* were found to hold one fee here of Stephen de Gaunt, and *he* of Robert de Roos^g.

DE LA HAY MANOR. In 14 Edw. 2 (1321) *Nicholas lord Segrave*† died seised of eighteen acres of land and five acres of wood, which he had purchased of Benyna, daughter of John de la Hay, held of William de Roos^h. In Walter de Parles' account of scutage in 20 Edw. 3 (1346) *Alan de la Hay* with *Thomas Baa* and two others, answered for two parts of a fee in Sewell, Braden, and Everdon, of the fee of Waundevilleⁱ, the mesne lord in the reign of Hen. 3. No further direct notice of the De la Hay family occurs in connection with Sewell; but the subsequent descent of this manor identifies with them *John de la Hay*, who purchased Pendley in Hertfordshire towards the close of this reign^j, and was probably son of the above Alan. Sir John de la Hay, member for the county of Hertford in four parliaments in the reign of Edw. 2 and Edw. 3, and sheriff of that county and Essex in 5 and 6 Edw. 3, is stated to have been his father, but there can be little hesitation in assigning him to the De la Hays of Laver de la Hay in Essex. John left two daughters and coheirresses, *Alice* wife of Robert Whittingham, esq., and *Joan* wife of Walter Paine^k, after whose death she married Richard Buckland, esq., and survived till 2 Edw. 4 (1462)^l. By Joan's will, already given under Edgcote^m, she made a special devise of that manor, excluding her eldest grandson and heir, sir Robert Whittingham, in favour of his younger brother *Richard Whittingham*, esq., which gave rise to a litigation between their heirs. *Margaret*, daughter and heiress of Richard, was twice married. Her first husband, *Richard Clarel*, esq., died in 18 Edw. 4 (1478) seised of the manors of Edgcote and Sewell, leaving Richard his son and heir aged twenty-four yearsⁿ; but being possessed in her own right, she joined with her second husband *Thomas Haslewood*, esq., in the sale of Edgcote, in 7 Hen. 7 (1491) and this manor in Sewell was either then, or soon after, alienated.

* Charity Commissioners' 14th Report, p. 318 to 326.

^a Domesd. fo. 225.

^b Cotton MSS. Vesp. E. xxij. fo. 93b.

^c Test. Nev.

fo. 129.

^d Ibid. fo. 127.

^e Cardigan MSS. "Nom. Vill." p. 65.

^f Rec. 13 Edw. 2, n. 37.

^g Inham MSS. No. 36, p. 198.

^h Chauncy's Herts, p. 593, and Clutterbuck's Herts, 1. p. 282 & 284.

ⁱ Rec. 2 Edw. 4, n. 19.

^j Rec. 18 Edw. 4, n. 46.

^k Vide STOKES ALBANY.

^l Vide BRAUNTON, 1. p. 369.

^m Vide STOWE, 1. p. 443.

ⁿ Vide 1. p. 492.

DE LA HAY, BUCKLAND, AND WHITTINGHAM, OF SEWELL.

Arms of Buckland and Whittingham.—Vide ESCOTE, vol. 1, p. 493.

ALAN DE LA HAY, of Sewell, 20 Edw. 3 (1346).^aJOHN DE LA HAY, of Pendley, co. Herts (erroneously called *Alan de la Hay*, vol. 1, p. 493), living 49 Edw. 3 (1375).^b

1. ALICE, dau. and coh. of ROBERT WHITTINGHAM, sheriff of London 1419.	1 h. WALTER PAINE, (1462). Esc. 2 Edw. 4, n. 19.	2 h. RICHARD BUCKLAND, of Edgote and Sewell (see note), ob. 10 Aug. 14 Hen. 6 (1436). Esc. 37 Hen. 6, n. 20, & 1 Edw. 4, n. 45.
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Sir ROBERT WHITTINGHAM, of Pendley, co. Herts, and Salden, co. Bucks, = AGNES, dau. and heiress, dead ob. 30 Hen. 6 (1452), bur. in Ashridge priory, co. Herts. A. 37 Hen. 6 (1452).

Vide ESCOTE, vol. 1, p. 493.

Robert Brudenell, esq. in 14 Hen. 7 (1498) levied a fine of Hay's manor in Sewell with lands and water-mill, and rents in Blakesley, Pottersperry, Yardley Gobion, and Puxley, to *John Porter*, esq. and Joan his wife for life, remainder to *Thomas Porter*, esq. and Agnes his wife, in fee tail, remainder to *George Porter*, esq. brother of Thomas, in fee tail, remainder to *Joan* sister of Thomas and George, with remainder to the right heirs of John¹. This manor has since merged by unity of ownership in the other, or

BRADDEN MANOR. The portion of Sewell held by Roger de Brunnesle in 24 Edw. 1 (1295) soon after passed to *Geoffrey de Bradden*, who in 6 Edw. 2 (1312) levied a fine of the manor of Sewell to himself for life, remainder to *Thomas de Baa*²; and in 9 Edw. 2 (1315) was returned lord of Sewell³. *Thomas de Baa* answered for a portion of the scutage for two parts of a fee here in 20 Edw. 3 (1346)⁴, and died in 48 Edw. 3 (1374) seised of lands and tenements in Sewell held of lord Roos, leaving *William Corbet*, son of his daughter Elizabeth, his grandson and heir aged twenty-two years p. On his decease in 1 Ric. 2 (1377) he was found to hold two parts of the manor of Sewell, and was succeeded by Margaret his daughter⁵.

In 15 Ric. 2 (1391) sir *Thomas Green*, of BOUGHTON and GREENS NORTON, obtained a grant of free warren (*int. al.*) in Sewell⁶, and died the same year seised of the manor of Sewell, held of lord Roos, leaving sir *Thomas Green* his son and heir aged twenty-two years⁷, from whom it followed the line of pedigree in BOUGHTON⁸ down to *Anne* wife of Nicholas lord Vaux, and *Matilda* wife of sir Thomas Parr, the two daughters and coheiresses of the last sir Thomas Green, who died in 22 Hen. 7 (1506)⁹. *Thomas 2nd lord Vaux*, son of Nicholas, purchased the Parr moiety of William Parr, esq.¹⁰ (afterwards marquis of Northampton) son and heir of Matilda; and Sewell was included in his sale of Greens Norton and other manors in 27 Hen. 8 (1535) to

Sir *Arthur Darcy*¹¹, who immediately afterwards transferred them to king Henry 8.¹²

In 17 Car. 2 (1665) Sewell was included with the honor of Grafton in an extensive grant by the king to Denzill lord Holles and others, at the request of queen *Katherine* to hold in trust for her life¹³; and in 25 Car. 2 (1673) the reversion was granted to Henry earl of Arlington for life, with remainder to the king's natural sons *Henry earl of Euston* (afterwards duke of Grafton), Charles earl of Southampton (afterwards duke of Cleveland and Southampton), and "lord George Fitzroy, alias the lord George Palmer" (afterwards duke of Northumberland), successively in tail male¹⁴. On the decease of the queen in 1705, the earl of Arlington having previously died in 1685, *Charles 2nd duke of Grafton*, as son and heir of Henry 1st duke, came into possession, and it is now (1833) vested in *George-Henry 4th duke of Grafton*.

CANONS ASHBY PRIORY LANDS. Robert de Mandevill or Wandeville, "lord of Sewell" (in the reign of Hen. 3.) for the souls of himself and Alan his brother, gave to the monks of Ashby 6s. yearly rent out of lands in Sewell¹⁵; to which the said Alan added a certain meadow¹⁶. Richard le Hay, of Sewell, gave them his fulling mill with pertinencies, and four acres of land in Sewell¹⁷; and by another deed granted them eight acres of land and 5s. yearly rent in Sewell¹⁸.

¹ Hutton MSS. "Fin. Mich. 14 Hen. 7."² Ibid. "Fin. 6 Edw. 2."³ Cardigan MSS. "Nom. Vill." p. 2.⁴ Islam

MSS. No. 34, p. 194, "Comp. Walt. Purles."

⁵ Esc. 48 Edw. 3, n. 3.⁶ Esc. 1 Ric. 2, n. 10.⁷ Cart. 15 Ric. 2, n. 23.⁸ Esc. 15 Ric. 2, n. 24.⁹ Esc. 22 Hen. 7, n. 74.¹⁰ Augm. Off. (1 Jan. 27 Hen. 8) Box D. 62.¹¹ Pat. 30 Jan. 17 Car. 2,

p. 9, n. 1.

¹² Pat. 21 Jan. 25 Car. 2, p. 2, n. 2.¹³ Ashby Canons Cartulary, fo. 129.¹⁴ Ibid. fo. 121.¹⁵ Ibid. fo. 190.¹⁶ Vide vol. 1, p. 32.

BRADDEN

varies scarcely a shade from the domesday orthography—"Bradene"—but in modern times it has been occasionally written Bradwin. It contains 1010 acres, and the open fields were inclosed by act of parliament in 43 Geo. 3 (1803). The estate of Cornelius Ives, esq. lord of the manor, comprises 651 acres, nearly half of which is old inclosure; the rector, in right of his church, has 191 acres; and Mr. Joseph Goodman, 113 acres. The lordship is bounded on the north by Greens Norton, and north-east by a brook which divides it from Towcester; east by another brook which separates it from Abthorp in Towcester hundred; south by Slapton; and west by Blakesley. The soil is principally a stiff clay, and about two thirds of the lordship is in permanent pasture.

In Feb. 1727-8 Henry Greenwood, of this parish, died at the patriarchal age of one hundred and three years.

MANORIAL HISTORY. BUCI FEE*. **BARONY OF BASSET*.** **ENGAYNE MANOR.** A portion of "Bradene" was the freehold of *Chenric* in the time of Edward the confessor, and rated at 60s. yearly, but was reduced in value to 40s. at the domesday survey, when it was held by *William* under Robert de Buci. It contained one hide and four parts of half a hide. The arable land was three carucates and a half; of which two were in demesne, and one in the occupation of four villeins, leaving half a carucate waste or unaccounted for. There was one acre of meadow[†].

William was the ancestor of the baronial family of *Engayne*†; and in the hydarium of Hen. 2. *Vitalis de Engayne* was certified to hold one hide and four small virgates in "Braddene[‡]." *Sibilla de Gineyes or Genelles*, a family connected with a branch of the *Engaynes*†, in 8 Joh. (1206) levied a fine of eleven virgates in Bradden, to Robert de Stokes§, by whom, or his successor, it was in the following reign alienated to *Geoffrey* son of Henry de Norton, who, seating himself here, changed his local surname to Bradden§, and a fine was levied of this manor in 9 Edw. 1 (1280) by his grandson *Geoffrey* de Bradden[¶].

In the book of knights' fees in 24 Edw. 1 (1295) *William* de Bradden answered for the fourth of a fee in "Bradden" of the heirs of Stokes[‡]. In the following year he was returned from the county of Northampton as holding lands or rents to the amount of £20 yearly value and upwards, either in capite or otherwise, and as such summoned under the general writ to perform military service in person with horse and arms in parts beyond the seas[¶]; and the next year had a similar summons to serve in person against the Scots[‡]. His son, *Geoffrey* de Bradden, was lord of Bradden, Sewell, and Eston Neston, in 9 Edw. 2 (1315)[¶]; and on the death of John de Engayne in 16 Edw. 2 (1322) was found to hold one fourth of a fee of him in Bradden, belonging to the manor of Blatherwick[¶]. He had also the manors of Ridoven and Lancaster in Wales[¶], and dying in the beginning of Edw. 3, his widow Joan, in plea to an action brought against her in 3 Edw. 3 (1329) by Bartholomew, son of Walter de Bradden, for unjustly disseising him of his manor of Norton—an error I presume of the transcriber for Bradden—produced a deed by which the said Bartholomew remised and released to her for life, all his claim in the manor of "Norton [Bradden], Duncot, Burcot, Carswell, Caldecote, Towcestre, Wyttebury, Blacovesle, and Est Neston," which *Geoffrey* formerly held in those villis[¶]. The termination of the Bradden family is involved in obscurity; but this portion of their estate, for it will be seen it did not comprise the whole of their interest here, appears to have passed as in *Sewell* to Thomas de Baa.

BRADDEN, OF BRADDEN, SEWELL, AND EASTON NESTON.

From public records and other authorities.

Arms. Sable, a bend engrailed Argent.

GEOFFREY DE NORTON, —————

GEOFFREY, son of Geoffrey de Norton of Blakesley, 9 Ric. (1197) & 4 Joh. (1202), —————

HENRY DE NORTON, q. same as Henry de Bradden of Blakesley, 9 Joh. (1207), —————

GEOFFREY DE BRADDEN, son of Henry de Norton, temp. Joh. & Hen. 3, —————

Sir WILLIAM BRADDEN, of Bradden, 56 Hen. 3 (1271) = Joan, living 56 Hen. 3 (1271).

Sir GEOFFREY DE BRADDEN, of Bradden, 9 Edw. 1 (1280), —————

Sir WILLIAM DE BRADDEN, of Bradden, 24 Edw. 1 (1295), ————— ISAMIA, had lands in Blakesley temp. Edw. 1.

Sir GEOFFREY DE BRADDEN, of Bradden, 30 Edw. 1 (1302), sheriff of co. — JOAN, widow of Sir Geoffrey, — h. JOHN DE PATERSHILL. WALTER DE —————
Northt. 6 Edw. 2, living 9 Edw. 2 (1315), dead 3 Edw. 3 (1329). 3 Edw. 3 (1329).

BARTHOLOMEW DE BRADDEN, claimed against Joan, widow of sir Geoffrey de Bradden, 3 Edw. 3 (1329).

Thomas de Baa died in 48 Edw. 3 (1374) seized of lands and tenements in Bradden, held of lady Engayne[¶], leaving William Corbet his grandson and heir[¶]; who died in 1 Ric. 2 (1377) seized of the same estate, held of lady Engayne[¶].

* Northampton Mercury.

† Domesd. fo. 225 b.

‡ Cotton. MSS. Vesp. E. xxij. fo. 95 b.

§ Hatton MSS. "Fin. & Joh."

¶ Luffield Priory Cartulary in possession of dean and chapter of Westminster, fo. 95.

‡ Luffield Priory Cartulary in possession of dean and chapter of Westminster, fo. 95.

§ Hatton MSS. "Fin. & Joh."

¶ Cardigan

* Esc. 16 Edw. 2, n. 71.

† Rot. Parl. 2, p. 386.

‡ Ibid. p. 312.

§ Cardigan MSS. "Nom. Vill." p. 8 & 9.

¶ Esc. 1 Ric. 2, n. 10.

‡ Isham MSS. No. 37, p. 179, "Plac. 3 Edw. 3."

§ Esc. 48 Edw. 3, n. 3.

* Vide WELDON.

† Vide ABINGTON, vol. 1, p. 3.

In the account of scutage, however, in 20 Edw. 3 (1346) Thomas de Baa with three others, answered for two parts of a fee in Sewell, Bradden, and Everdon, of the fees of *Waudevill** or Alhini, and Richard Blundell and John Draper for the fourth of a fee in Bradden of the fee of *Engayne*†. These discrepancies, both in the tenancy and the tenure, cannot now be reconciled; and a long unappropriated chasm intervenes till 18 Edw. 4 (1487), when *Stephen Middleton*, son of John Middleton of London, released to

John Hulcote‡, esq. all his lands and services in Bradden, Hulcote, Eston (Neston), and Thurning, in the counties of Northampton and Huntingdon, which they had of the feoffment of John Dyve and John Aleyn, gent.s.

In March 1 Hen. 7 (1485-6) *Robert Prudde*, cousin and heir of John Hulcote, esq. viz. son of Alice, sister of the said John, conveyed all his lands and services, which descended to him in Bradden, with the advowson of the church, Towcester, Caldecote, Est Neston, Hulcote, and Shytlinger, to

Thomas Fowler, esq. in fee, who, in May following, in consideration of £240 covenanted to deliver to John Matthew forty-four sacks of wool, and released to him the manor of Bradden, to be returned on performance of the contract, or retained in fee on default. In Mich. term 2 Hen. 7 (1486) John Prudde levied a fine of the manor and advowson of Bradden, with lands and rents there and in Greens Norton, to Thomas Fowler and John Matthew, alderman of London; in Nov. following, Fowler released to Matthew in fee, and in Dec. 4 Hen. 7 (1493) Fowler executed another release with a clause of warranty. The bulk of the Hulcote estate was purchased by *sir Richard Empson*, and notwithstanding the above conveyances, this estate was included in his possessions on his attainer; and in the subsequent grant to *sir William Compton*§. This manor reverted, however, to the Matthew family, who had also acquired the Green and Grey estates here; and in 33 Hen. 8 (1541) *Robert Matthew*, esq. died seised of the manor of Bradden; from whom it lineally descended agreeably to the annexed pedigree down to *Gaius Matthew*, esq. who, in April 1677, sold the manor and advowson to the rev. *William Ives*†.

MATTHEW, or BRADDEN.

From visitations, title deeds, and parish register of Bradden*.

Arms. Gyrony of eight Sable and Gules, over all a lion rampant Or within a border Azure, charged with eight crosses pattee of the Third.

THOMAS MATTHEW, of Sherrington, co. Bucks.†

Sir JOHN MATTHEW, lord mayor of London, 6 Hen. 7 (1490), dead 14 Hen. 7 (1499). MARGARET, dau. and h. of John Heydon, of Peterborough, gent.

1 W. ANNE, dau. of William Fisher, brother of ROBERT MATTHEW, of Bradden, esq. ob. 22 Nov. 1722. 2 W. EDITH, dau. of Richard Turberville, of Bere John Fisher, bishop of Rochester. 33 Hen. 8 (1541). Esc. 34 Hen. 8, p. 2. n. 42. Regis. co. Dorset, esq.

1. JOHN MATTHEW, of Brad- CONSTANCE, dau. den, esq. et. 40. Esc. 34 Hen. 8, ob. 1 April 3 & 4 Ph. & Mar. (1557). Esc. 4 & 5 Ph. & Mar. p. 3. n. 11. 2. THOMAS MARGARET; w. of Francis Browne, of Towcester, co. Rutl. esq. 33 Hen. 8 (1541). Esc. 34 Hen. 8, p. 2. n. 42. ANNE; w. of Anthony Browne, of Towcester, co. Rutl. esq. 33 Hen. 8 (1541). Esc. 34 Hen. 8, p. 2. n. 42. RICHARD MATTHEW, MARY. ANNE.

BROWNE OF TOWCESTER, co. Rutl.

1 W. MARY, dau. of Thoma- WILLIAM, of W. JOAN, w. W. CATHERINE, h. THOMAS, MAS 2 THOMAS MARGARET; w. of Francis Browne, of Towcester, co. Rutl. esq. 33 Hen. 8 (1541). Esc. 34 Hen. 8, p. 2. n. 42. ANNE; w. of Anthony Browne, of Towcester, co. Rutl. esq. 33 Hen. 8 (1541). Esc. 34 Hen. 8, p. 2. n. 42. RICHARD MATTHEW, MARY. ANNE.

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GAIUS MATTHEW, of Bradden, esq. sold Bradden April 1677, dead June 1677. JOHN MATTHEW, gent. occurs 1678.

The rev. *William Ives*, the purchaser of Bradden, was rector of Greens Norton, and afterwards of this parish. He died s. p. in Jan. 1696-7, having devised his estate to his nephew and heir *William Ives*, esq. whose great nephew *Cornelius Ives*, esq. is the present proprietor (1833).

* Islam MSS. No. 38, p. 198. * Comp. Walt. Paries.†

† Ives Evidence.

* Esc. 3 Hen. 8, n. 21.

* Pat. 24 Feb. 3 Hen. 8, p. 3.

† Esc. 34 Hen. 8, p. 2. n. 45.

* Vide HULCOTE.

NORTON HUNDRED.

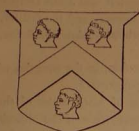
IVES OF BRADDEN, 1833.

From title deeds, parish register of Bradden,* and other authorities.

Arms. Argent, a chevron between three moors' heads in profile couped Sable.

FRANCIS IVES, of Wellingborough, SARAH, dau. of Thomas Pentlow of Wilby, esq. gent. ob. 27 July 1666, bur. there.

Rev. WILLIAM IVES, rector of Greens, ELIZABETH, 2^d h. rev. WIL- PALMER IVES, ANN, dau. of Wellingborough, purchased Brad- den, 1677, ob. s. p. 25 Jan. bur. 27 Jan. 1696-7, et. 69. LIAM CHAPLIN, rec- tor of Fiddreth, ob. Oxon, bur. 24 June 1715.



1 wife, 1. WIL- LIAM IVES, dau. of Brad- den, esq. ob. 22 Dec. 1701. 2 wife, 2. MARY JANE, dau. of sir Gile-Clarke, of Gile-Clarke, co. Derby. ob. 13 Jan. 1706-7, 1758.

2 h. sir THOMAS SAM- WELL, of Upton, 2nd bart, and of Bradden, 3^d h. rev. WIL- Gile's in the Fields, Mide. 25 Jan. 1730-1, ob. at B. 10 Nov. bur. at U. 2 Dec. 1757.

2. FRAN- CIS IVES, BETH, dau. of 1725. Carpenter, gent. ob. 7th Feb. 1774; 2^d h. Thompson.

FRANCIS, mar. 1699; ob. 27 July 1666, bur. there. John Gilbert, of Tif- field, ob. 1730. ANNE, ob. nunn. 1 Dec. 1699. SARAH, living 1696; SARAH, living 1696; ELIZABETH, living 1666.

VAN MILBERT, ABRAHAM, ANN, dau. of Wm. DERT, of Amster- dam, com. of Har- lem, after- wards of Lon- don.

MARY, living 1717. JANE, hap. 17 Aug. 1705, bur. 9 Mar. 1705-6.

2. FRANCIS IVES, ob. inf. 1717. 3. CALAM IVES, ob. den. esq. ob. 24 Dec. 1794, bur. 1 Jan. 1795, et. 79.

1. WILLIAM ANNE, eldest dau. mar. at Lambeth, 24 Dec. 1794, bur. 1 Jan. 1795, et. 79.

MARY, ob. nunn. 1. DANIEL VAN MILBERT, ob. nunn. 2. DIRCK VAN MILBERT, ob. 29 April 1799, et. 66.

3. CORNELIUS MAR- THA, dau. of Wm. Hill, of Vaux- hall, esq. ob. 21 Sep. 1816, et. 66.

1. ANNE, THOMAS, dau. of St. GRANT, Leonard's, Shoreditch, co. Middle, esq. ob. 7 Aug. 1791, bur. 19 Nov. 1776, liv- ing 1833. 2. ELIZA- BETH, hap. of Litch- borough, co. Essex, 1st Dec. 1757, ob. 6th June 1787, ob. 7th July 1830.

Rev. WIL- LIAM IVES, rector of Paulers, Purty, ob. 9 Sept. 1817, et. 77. 2. FRANCIS IVES, ob. inf. 1717. 3. CALAM IVES, ob. den. esq. ob. 24 Dec. 1794, bur. 1 Jan. 1795, et. 79.

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Vide MAIDFORD.

1. ANNA. 2. Rev. CORNE- LIUS IVES, rector of Bradden.

3. Rev. WILLIAM IVES, late vicar of Hal- twhistle, co. Northumb.

MARY-ANNE, eldest dau. of late Henry Rich- mond, of Humshaugh, co. Northumb. esq. mar. 26 Sept. 1832.

4. MARTHA. 5. ELIZABETH.

DAVID FEE. TODENI OF ALBINI FEE*. GREEN MANOR. Another Saxon freehold in "Bradene" belonged to *Biscop* in the time of Edward the confessor, which was then rated at 5s. yearly, but was doubled in value at the domesday survey, when it was held by *David*. It contained one hide and four parts of half a hide. The arable land was three carucates and a half; one of which was in demesne with one villein and one bordar, and the remaining two and a half were uncultivated or unaccounted for. There was one acre of meadow*. It is worthy of remark, that though both the Clerenic and Biscop portions of this vill exactly corresponded as to the hides and carucates, yet whilst the former was rated at 60s. yearly in the Saxon era, and was reduced to 40s. at the Norman survey; the latter was only rated at 5s. yearly in the first survey, and was doubled in value at the second. The low scale of Saxon valuation in the last estate was probably owing to the small proportion of the arable land in a state of cultivation, as two carucates and a half lay waste even at the Norman survey.

Of David nothing more is known than that he held also Casterton* (Parva) in Rutlandshire.

In the hydarium of Hen. 2. besides the portion already noticed under the Buci fee, *Pagan* held one hide and four small virgates here, which coincides with the David fee; and Ralph de Waundeville had a hide and two small virgates^b, which, taken in connection with the Sewell entry, and the subsequent tenure, leaves but little doubt that the Toden fee in that vill embraced this part of Bradden. Geoffrey de Waundeville, the heir of Ralph, in the Testa de Nevill about 27 Hen. 3 (1242), answered for two parts of a fee in Sewell, Bradden, and Everdon, of the fees of (the late) William de Albini of the honor of Belvoir*. The local family of Bradden added this, or at least part of it, to their Engayne estate here, for in the inquisition after the death of Margaret widow of William lord Roos† in 37 Edw. 3 (1363) *Geoffrey de Bradden*—or rather the late Geoffrey—was returned to hold one fee of her in Bradden^d.

In 15 Ric. 2 (1391) *sir Thomas Green*, of BOUGHTON and NORTON, died seised of a carucate of land in Bradden, held of lord Roos, leaving *sir Thomas Green* his son and heirs, who died in 5 Hen. 5 (1417) seised of the manor of Bradden, held of lord Roos as of Stoke Albany fee†.

Dame Maud Green, widow of *sir Thomas Green*, grandson of the last named *sir Thomas*, in April 16 Hen. 7 (1502) demised to

Robert Matthee, esq. lands, rents, and underwood in Bradden Bury and Bradden Grove for ten years^e, and in Dec. 20 Hen. 7 (1505) *sir Thomas Green* conveyed to him the above lands and tenements, with all the timber wood growing in the town and fields of Bradden, subject to a yearly rent charge of £5^f. Accordingly, in the inquisition after the death of *sir Thomas* in 22 Hen. 7 (1506), the manor of Bradden is omitted^g, yet it is named in the fines passed in 3 Hen. 8 (1511-12) by his coheirs^h, in the inquisition after the death of Nicholas lord Vauxⁱ, and in the sale of the Green estates by *Thomas lord Vaux* to *sir Arthur Darcy*, and by *sir Arthur* to king Henry VIII.¹ This apparent

* Domesd. fo. 229.

Ric. 2, n. 24.

16 Hen. 8, n. 60.

* Vide STOKES ALBANY.

^b Cotton, MSS. Vesp. E. xvi. fo. 63 b.

^c Eec. 5 Hen. 5, n. 39.

^d Inq. Off. (1 Jan. 27 Hen. 6) Box D. 62.

^e Vide BRAUNTON, vol. 1, p. 269.

^f Test. Nev. fo. 122.

^g Eec. 22 Hen. 7, n. 74.

^h Fin. Hill. 3 Hen. 8.

ⁱ Eec. 13 Hen. 8.

incongruity is explained by the reserved rent-charge which, arising out of the manor, is loosely described as the manor itself, and which is now paid by Cornelius Ives, esq. to the duke of Grafton, in whom the principal possessions of the Greens in this part of the county are vested*.

ST. JOHN OF JERUSALEM MANOR. By an inquisition of the lands belonging to the Knights Templars in 1185 (32 Hen. 2) under the rents of the bailiff of Warwick, they were found to have 2s. in Harpole, 12d. in Cogenho, and 10s. 8d. in "Bradende," of the gift of Alard de St. Illaria^m, or St. Hillary; and Bradden is specifically mentioned in the confirmation of their lands and privileges in 1 Joh. (1199)ⁿ. On the suppression of the Knights Templars their manors and lands were granted in 1 Edw. 3 (1327) to the prior and brothers of the hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in England^o; and in 3 Edw. 3 (1329) the prior, in plea to a writ of *quo warranto*, substantiated his claim to view of frank pledge twice a year in Bradden of his tenants in that vill, and in Welford, Buckby, Flore, and Harpole^p. The court rolls for 8 and 9 Hen. 4, are still extant^q. By an undated survey of the possessions of the hospital in this county, it was returned to have 10s. 7d. yearly rent of free tenants issuing out of divers lands in Bradden^r. In 16 Edw. 3 (1342) Henry lord Grey of Wilton, died seised of a messuage, ninety acres of land, six acres of meadow, and 20s. rent in Bradden, held of the hospital of St. John of Jerusalem by service of 15d. yearly, leaving Reginald his son and heir aged thirty years^s. This I presume was the estate which Thomas Grey marquis of Dorset sold to John Matthew, esq. in 11 Hen. 7 (1496), and which in the fine levied was called the *manor* of Bradden^t.

Bradden is parcel of the honor of Grafton, and a member of the court annually held at Morton Pinkeney.

THE OLD MANOR HOUSE is traditionally supposed to have been erected by the Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem. It was taken down a few years since by Mr. Ives, and the present more convenient residence placed on its site; but the style and character of the interesting old mansion has been fortunately preserved in a sketch by a former rector of the parish, from which the kindness of Mr. Grant has enabled me to give the accompanying etching.



THE VILLAGE is about four miles from Towcester. In the time of Bridges it consisted 'of five and twenty families'. By the census of 1801, it contained 33 houses and 156 inhabitants; by that of 1811, 32 houses and 139 inhabitants; by that of 1821, 30 houses and 135 inhabitants; and by that of 1831, 33 houses and 165 inhabitants. The annual quota of land tax for this parish is 86*l*. 13*s*. at 4*s*. in the *£*. The estimated value of real property, as

^m Mon. Ang. 2, p. 527.

ⁿ Cart. 1 Joh. n. 35.

^o Cart. 1 Edw. 3, n. 21 & 32.

^p Quo Warr. 3 Edw. 3.

^q Penes H. H.

H. Hungerford, esq.

^r Esc. 16 Edw. 3, n. 45.

^s Ives evidences.

^t Br. 1, p. 236.

* Vide Norton.

assessed to the property tax of 10 *per cent.* for the year ending April 1815, amounted to £1,470. The poor rates for the year ending Easter 1832, raised £190. 12s. 9d. at 3s. in the £. The wake follows the feast of St. Michael.

ADVOWSON. Sibilla de Gimenes, or Gemenles, in the fine which she levied in 8 Joh. (1206) to Robert de Stokes, reserved to herself the advowson*, which Robert de Gimenes passed to Ralph de Berners by fine in 43 Hen. 3 (1258)†. Sir William de Bradden, lord of the Engayne manor, presented in 1295 (23 Edw. 1)‡ but from the presentations during the succeeding two centuries and a half, the patronage appears to have been exercised in trust, or for single turns. In March 1557-8, sir John Fermor, of Eston Neston, conveyed the advowson to William Matthew, esq.; and it has continued in the manorial estate down to Cornelius Ives, esq. the present patron.

THE RECTORY is in the deanry of Brackley. In the taxations of 1254 (38 Hen. 3)§, and of 1291 (20 Edw. 1)¶, it was rated at 7 marks (£4. 13s. 4d. *per ann.* and in the ecclesiastical survey of 1535 (26 Hen. 8) at £14. 6s. 8d. *per ann.* The parliamentary commissioners in 1655 certified it to be worth £50 yearly, that John Matthew, esq. was patron, and that Mr. Nicholas Short, the incumbent, supplied the cure¶.

The rectory now consists of 191 a. 2 r. 31 p. of land allotted by the commissioners of inclosure in lieu of glebe lands, and of the tithes of all the old and new inclosures. The rectory house is situated north of the church-yard.

RECTORS. *Reginald de Arlington*, clerk, presented by William de Gymes 29 May 1231.

John de Pokebroc, chaplain, 1233.

Richard de Littlebir.

John de Gayton, by sir William de Bradden, 1 May 1295.

He was vicar of Rothersthorp from 1293 to 1296.

John, son of *Richard de Gayton*, clerk, by Richard, son of Walter de Gayton, 18 July 1322.

John Herne, of Davenport, priest, by sir Richard Blundell, of Bradden, 16 May 1342. He exchanged for the vicarage of Badby with

Reginald Musard, priest, 12 Sept. 1365, on the presentation of John Vynet, of Middleton, clerk.

John de Braden, priest, 27 Jan. 1371-2.

William Thedingworth, of Laughton, priest, by the bishop by lapse, 14 Sept. 1393.

Henry Syngh, by John Rote, Robert Vynet, John Myles, clerk, and Simon Brampton.

Richard Hunte, clerk, by the same, 3 Nov. 1398. He was rector of Clay Coton from 1417 to 1421.

John Terrey, priest, by William Tresham, 2 July 1448.

Sir John Miles, priest, by John Hulcote, esq. 20 May 1471.

William Salwyn. He was also vicar of Pateshull.

Sir Thomas Wilkynson, chaplain, by Thomas Empson, esq. 1 Feb. 1523-4. He was also rector of Cogenho from 1508 to 1517, and vicar of St. John's, Peterborough, from 1510 to 1517. On his decease

Sir Robert Burton, or *Barton*, was presented by John Matthew, gent. by grant from Richard Fermor, esq. and inst. 6 Aug. 1544. He was buried here 31 Dec. 1577*, and

William Cotgrave was inst. 5 Mar. 1577-8, on the presentation of William Matthew, esq.

Thomas London was inst. during a vacancy in the see of Peterborough. He was buried here 15 Aug. 1629†.

William Van Mildert of Queen's coll. Oxf. A. M. 1790, D. D. 1813, who was inst. 24 Apr. 1795 on the presentation of his brother-in-law Cornelius Ives, esq. He received the rudiments of his education at Merchant Taylors' school, from whence he removed to Queen's college, Oxford. Bradden was his first preferment, but the year following he obtained the rectory of St. Mary le Bow, London, which he held till Aug. 1820. The reputation which he acquired by the publication of his Boyle's Lecture sermons, induced the society of Lincoln's Inn to select him for their preacher in 1812; and in 1813 he was appointed Regius Professor of divinity at Oxford with a canonry of Christ Church. In 1819 he succeeded the present bishop of Peterborough in the see of Llandaff; in the year following on being appointed to the deanry of St. Paul's resigned the divinity chair and canonry; and in 1826 was elevated to the bishopric of Durham. This learned divine is author of "The excellency of the Liturgy of the Church of England," a sermon preached at the church of St. Mary le Bow, 1797; and "A Caution against Innovation in matters of Religion," a sermon

Benjamin Austen, A. M. was presented by Nicholas Matthew, esq. and inst. 18 Sept. following.

Nicholas Short occurs in 1655‡. He was buried here 2 May 1688, and

William Ives, of Christ coll. Camb. A. M. rector of Greens Norton, and purchaser of this manor and advowson, was inst. on the presentation of Thomas Catesby, of Ecton, esq. and John Orlebar, of the Middle Temple, esq. p. h. v. He was buried here 27 Jan. 1696-7*, and

Samuel Dudley, of Jesus coll. Camb. A. B. was presented by William Ives, esq. and inst. 27 Apr. 1697. He was vicar of St. Giles's, Northampton, from 1690 to 1697, and rector of Alderton from 1684 to 1710. His death introduced

John Hosen, who was inst. 23 July 1739, on the presentation of sir Thomas Samwell, bart. and Mary his wife. He was vicar of Rothersthorpe from 1727 to 1756. He was buried here* 7 Jan. 1762, and

Bartholomew Keeling, of St. Joh. Bap. coll. Camb. A. M. rector of Tiffeld, was presented by William Ives, esq. and inst. 8 Feb. following. He published, a Visitation Sermon preached at Towcester, May 1754. 8vo. 1755. "St. Paul's wish to be accused from Christ for the sake of his brethren, illustrated and vindicated from misconception," in three discourses, 8vo. 1766. Eight Sermons on the Harmony of the Evangelists, 8vo. 1773. He retained both livings till his death, 5 Dec. 1778, when he was succeeded in this benefice by

Richard Fletcher, of Magd. hall, Oxf. A. M. who was inst. 28 June 1779, on the presentation of the bishop by lapse. He was buried here 7 Mar. 1786*, and

Robinson Lawford, already noticed under Edgcote, was presented by William Ives, esq. and inst. 1 Aug. following. He held the vicarage of Eston Neston, and the mastership of the free grammar school at Towcester with this rectory till 25 Feb. 1795; when he died, and was succeeded here by

* Hatton MSS. "Fin. 8 Joh."

* Cotton MSS. Nero D. x. fo. 179.

* Ibid. "Fin. 43 Hen. 3."

* Tax. Eccl. p. 39.

* Aug. Off.

* Reg. Oliv. Sutton, Ep. Linc.

* Lambeth MSS. vol. 29.

* Ives evidences.

* Par. Reg.

preached at the same church, 1798. 8vo. Sermons on the rise and progress of Infidelity, preached at the Boyle Lectures, 2 vol. 8vo. 1806. 2nd ed. with appendix, 1807. 3d ed. 1808. 5th ed. 1832. Sermon on the assassination of the Rt. Hon. Spencer Perceval, 1812. Sermons on the general principles of Scripture interpretation, preached at the Bampton Lecture, 8vo. 1815. 2nd ed. 1817. 3d ed. 1832. A charge delivered to the clergy of the diocese of Llandaff at his primary visitation 1821. Substance of a Speech in the House of Lords 17 May 1825, on a Bill for the removal of certain disqualifications of the Roman Catholics. A charge delivered to the clergy of the diocese of Durham 1827. A Sermon for the sons of the clergy in the diocese of Durham, preached at St. Nicholas's church, Newcastle 1829. Sermons preached before the Society of Lincoln's Inn from 1812 to 1819. 2 vol. 8vo. 1831. 2d ed. 1832. And a charge delivered to the clergy of the diocese of Durham, 1831. On his cession

Thomas Fawcett of Christ Ch. coll. Oxf. A. M. who has been previously noticed under Aynho, was presented by the same patron, and inst. 17 Feb. 1797. He obtained the rectory of Greens Norton in 1818, and resigning this benefice, the same patron presented his son

Cornelius Ives of Exeter coll. Oxf. A. M. who was inst. 10 Feb. 1818, and is the present rector. He has published a volume of "Sermons originally composed for a country congregation," 8vo. 1832. 2nd ed. 1833.

THE REGISTERS commence in 1559.

THE CHURCH, dedicated to St. Michael, stands at the north end of the village, and consists of a low tower containing five bells, nave, north and south aisles, south porch, and chancel. The interior has been recently bricked and neatly pewed. The tower is 15 ft. 4 in. long and 10 ft. wide; the nave and aisles are 25 ft. 3 in. long, and the nave 16 ft. 8 in. the north aisle 9 ft. 6 in. and the south aisle 10 ft. wide; and the chancel 22 ft. long by 17 ft. 5 in. wide. The font is octagonal and dated 1662. The nave is divided from each aisle by three pointed arches on low octangular pillars with plain mouldings.

MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS.

1. NAVE. On a slab,

Here
lieth interred
the Body of
the Rev. RICH^d FLETCHER, A. M.
seven years Rector of this Parish
during which time
he faithfully discharged the duties
of his station.
He died much lamented
by all who knew him
on the second of March
Anno Domini
1786;
Anno Ætatis
31.

NORTH AISLE.

2. Mrs. Felicia Hull, wife of Mr. John H.
28 Feb. 1757, æt. circ. 84.
Mr. John Hull, 3 June 1763, æt. 74.

CHANCEL.

HIC
JACET GUILIELMUS IVES, A.M.
CL'ICUS, HUIUS PAROCHIE
ET DE GREENS NORTON

RECTOR

CUI ADJACET ANNA
FRANCISCI IVES DE WELLIN-
BOROW IN HOC COM' GEN'.
E FILIABUS UNA.
OB. ILLE XXIII^o JAN. A. D.
MDCCCVI, ÆT. LXVIII.
HÆC I DEG. AN. DOM.
MDCLXXXIX, ÆT. XIII.

4.

H. S. S.
Reliquiæ Mariæ Howen
uxoris charissimæ Johanni
Howen hujus Ecclesiæ Rector
Mortem obiit 15^o Septembris.
Anno Dom. 1750^a.
Ætatis sue 52^a.
Flere et meminisse
Relictum est.
Hic etiam conditæ sunt
Prædicti Johannis Howen
Reliquiæ:
Qui obiit Die Iijæ Januarii
MDCLXII.
Anno Ætatis 72.

BENEFACTIONS. (Vide p. 1.) TOWN LAND IN SLAPTON AND WAPPENHAM. By an inquisition taken under a commission of charitable uses in the reign of Charles I. it was found that a messuage called Bradden House, in Slapton, and two yardlands thereto belonging in Slapton and Wappenham, were town land belonging to the parishioners of Bradden, and that the rents and profits were to be expended for the payment of the fifteenths granted to his majesty and his successors, and for the repairs of the parish church of Bradden; and the surplus, if any, to the use of the poor of Bradden. The commissioners acting under the said commission, directed, that when the fees should be reduced to three, they, and the majority of the inhabitants and parishioners of Bradden and the "parson of Bradden" for the time being, should elect four or more feeoffees from the sufficient freeholders or inhabitants of Bradden. The estate now consists of a messuage called Bradden house in Slapton with the Homeclose thereto belonging, and 27 a. 2 r. 38 p. of land allotted by the commissioners for inclosing Slapton in lieu of open field land, with about 2 a. in Wappenham; and is now let for £40 per ann. The rent is received by the feeoffees, and applied towards the repairs of the church, and the surplus, if any, after a weekly stipend to the village schoolmaster, is paid to the overseers of the poor.

TOWN LAND IN BRADDEN. It appears by the commission above mentioned, that about 8 a. in the commonable fields of Bradden belonged to the town and parish of Bradden, and that the churchwardens were to receive the rents and profits, and expend them for and towards the repairs of the church, and give an account thereof yearly on the Friday before Easter to the parishioners; and that the occupiers of a piece of land called Bell Rope Piece, mentioned in the decree, should out of the profits thereof provide and deliver to the churchwardens, all such bell ropes as should

be necessary for the use of the church, and if the lord of the manor, or the occupiers of the Bell Rope Piece, should not after ten days notice provide such bell ropes, then the churchwardens should enter on the said Bell Rope Piece, and receive the profits thereof, and dispose of the same for the benefit of the church of Braden for ever, and for buying bell ropes and other necessary uses of the church. This estate now consists of four cottages with small gardens annexed, and an allotment 3a. 1r. 23p. of land awarded by the commissioners for inclosing Braden in lieu of the church land and part of the Bell Rope Piece. The allotment is let for £5. 8s. 6d. *per ann.*; and the cottages and gardens are let to poor people under an acknowledgement of 1s. 6d. for each cottage and garden. The produce is applied to the general use of the church, and is included in the churchwardens' accounts.

POOR'S LAND. The commissioners of inclosure allotted 1a. 3r. 24p. of land to the lord of the manor, rector, and churchwardens, for the use of the poor of the parish, in lieu of their right of cutting fuel in the cow pasture of Braden. It is now let at £3. 6s. 8d. *per ann.* and the rent is distributed by the churchwardens amongst all the poor.

LEESON'S CHARITY, amounting to 10s. yearly, is distributed with the rent of the poor's land and the money collected at the sacrament.

PORTER'S CHARITY. The rev. Robert Porter in 1739, bequeathed £5 to be placed out at interest to be distributed amongst the poor of Braden. The sum of £5 was applied by the parishioners towards the charge of mounding the cow pasture, subject to an undertaking to allow 5s. yearly out of the field levies as interest, which sum is now annually paid out of the poor's rates, and distributed in the same manner as Leeson's charity money.

MAIDFORD

is written in Domesday "Merdeford," and in later records Maydford and Maidford. The ford doubtless has reference to the brook which divides it from Adston, but the connection which linked it either to the ancient or the more modern initiatory syllable is now irretrievable. The lordship contains about 1050 acres, of which about one third is old inclosure. The open fields were inclosed by act of parliament in 18 Geo. 3 (1778). About 250 acres belong to William Grant, of Litchborough, esq. lord of the manor; about 175 acres to the rector, in right of his church; and about 125 acres each to Mr. John Judkins and Mr. Samuel Pinckard. It is bounded on the north by Farthingston in Fawsley hundred; on the north-east and east by Litchborough in the same hundred; on the south-east and south by Blakesley; on the south-west and west by Adston; and north-west by Preston Capes in Fawsley hundred. The soil varies from a light to a strong loam, and the lordship is nearly equally divided between arable and pasture. In the stone of the lordship, which is of the great oolite, are found *Madrepora arachnoides*, Parkinson's Org. R. pl. 6, fig. 4. *Spatangia cor marinum*, *ibid.* pl. 3, f. 11. *Acteon cuspidatus*, Sowerby's Min. Conch. pl. 455, f. 1. *Buccinum mitraformis* n. s. and *unilineatum*. *Nerita minuta*, Min. Conch. pl. 463, f. 4. *Turbo obtusa*, *ibid.* pl. 551, fo. 2. *Turritella*, various species. *Astarte lurida*, Min. Conch. pl. 137, f. 1. *Astarte elegans*, var. *Ostrea acuminata*, Min. Conch. pl. 135. *Pinna cuneata*, Phillips, pl. 9, f. 17. *Pholodomya*, and *Terebratula perovialis*? Min. Conch. pl. 436, and *Venus*? Fossil wood and teeth are occasionally met with in the gravel. Maidford wood, belonging to W. Grant, esq. contains about 36 acres, and is separated by one field only from Sewell wood, 30 acres of which are in this parish. Two lime quarries are worked for burning. The little Bittern, *Ardea minuta*, was shot in this lordship about twenty years since, and more recently, the stone Curlew, *Scolopax arguta*; the Teal, *Anas crecca*; the Scaup Duck, *Anas Marila*; the Grosbeak, *Loxia Coccythraustes*; the short-horned owl, *Strix Brachyotos*; the Nightjar, Goat-sucker, or Fern Owl, *Caprimulgus Europæus*; the Waxen Chatterer, *Amphisp. Garrulus*; and the Golden Plover, *Charadrius Pluvialis*; Blue Gulls have been seen here occasionally in hard weather^a. There is a water mill on the Adston brook which rises in Preston lordship. *Moor's spring* is chalybeate. In May 1767 Elizabeth Wilson died here at the extraordinary age of 122 years^b.

MANORIAL HISTORY. GRENTEMAISNIL FEE^c. HONOR OF WINCHESTER^d. "Merdeford" was the Saxon frechold of *Willa*, and was then valued at 20s. yearly, but was raised to 50s. at the domesday survey, when it was held by one *Hugh* under Hugh de Grentemaisnil. It contained two hides and the fifth part of a hide. The arable land was five carucates, one of which was in demesne with four servants; and nine villeins with a *priest* and four bordars had three carucates, leaving one waste or unaccounted for. There was a wood four furlongs long and one wide^e.

The fee of Grentemaisnil merged in the honor of Leicester^f, and on the extinction of the line of the Norman earls, and the partition between Montfort and Quincy, the paramoury of Maidford was assigned to the latter; for in 27 Hen. 3 (1242) *Henry de Alneto* was found to hold one fee in "Maydeford" with two virgates in "Atteneston" [Adston], of Roger de Quincy [earl of Winchester], of the honor of Leicester^d. The Quincy moiety of this honor,

^a Information of rev. S. H. White.

^b Gents. Mag.

^c Domesd. fo. 224b.

^d Test. Nev. fo. 117.

^e Vide ASHBY LEDGERS, vol. 1. p. 241.

^f Vide BRACKLEY, vol. 1. p. 561.

was, from their earldom, generally denominated the honor of WINCHESTER*. In 5 Edw. 1 (1277), on the division of the fees of earl Roger amongst his three daughters and coheirresses, this fee in Maidford, then held by *Thomas Kynne*, was included in the purparty of the youngest, Elen, widow of Alan la Zouch^b; and on a further division, after the death of her grandson Alan la Zouch in 7 Edw. 2 (1312), it passed to his youngest daughter and coheirress, Matilda, wife of Robert Holand^c. Maidford was included in her view of frank pledge as a member of the honor of Winchester, and the same privilege has been, and still is claimed and exercised by the succeeding lords of Brackley as paramount lords, though it will be subsequently shewn that Kynne, the mesne lord, had a special exemption, and a view of frank pledge of his own by grant from earl Roger.

MANOR. *Hugh*, the domesday mesne lord, who had also *Lowesby* in Leicestershire, was *Hugh Burdet*, ancestor of the present sir Francis Burdett, bart. By a deed, a copy of which is given in Halstead's *Genealogies* from the earl of Peterborough's evidences, he gave to

Pagan de Alneto, with Emmeline his daughter in marriage, his vill of "Maydeford" as freely as he received it of the gift of his lord, king William, to hold honorably and hereditarily free from all service except what belonged to the king, to him and his heirs by the said Emmeline for ever^d. This deed is perhaps one of the earliest instances of a grant in fee tail; and it is interesting also as implying, if not absolutely proving, that the domesday mesne lord was not enfeoffed by *Gretemaisnil* his superior lord, but by the king himself, who therefore did not give the usufructuary possession of the land to the domesday chief lord, but only the feudal superiority. This cannot be supposed to have been a solitary case, and a wide field is thus opened to conjecture as to the nature and extent of the enormous grants made by the conqueror to the principal domesday tenants in chief.

In the hydariam of Hen. 2, *Pagan*, or rather the late *Pagan*, as he could not have survived till that period, and had no successor of the same name, was certified to have two hides, and two small virgates in "Maydeford¹." Towards the close of this reign, sir *William de Alneto*, great-grandson of *Pagan*, married *Joyce Engayne*. He accompanied king Richard to the crusades, and probably never returned; for *Hugh de Alneto* his brother, by a deed executed at the request of sir Richard Engayne, the brother of *Joyce*, testified that his brother William had married her, and had acknowledged in his presence that he had endowed her with all the manor of "Maydeford" and its appendages^e. In 1194 (6 Ric.) the same *Joyce* lady of Maydford, widow of sir William de Alneto, reciting a dispute between her and the monks of Luffield respecting Harts Grove and Maydenwood in Maydford, by the intervention of certain good men, agreed that the underwood in Maydenwood should be sold every seven years, and one moiety of the amount be paid to her and her heirs, and the other moiety to the monks^f. After her decease in 1 Joh. (1199) *Henry*, son of Richard de Alneto, claimed against *Henry de Alneto* a knight's fee in "Maydford¹," which in the following year is called the whole vill of "Maydford^m," as also in the plea between the said parties in 3 Joh. (1202) when *Henry de Alneto*, the plaintiff, claimed the vill by inheritance from Gerard de Alneto his grandfather, who was seised in the time of king Henry 2, *Henry de Alneto* the deforciant defended his right, and alleged that *Hugh Burdet*, who came to the conquest of England, gave it to *Pagan de Alneto* his great-great-grandfather (atavus) in the time of king Henry (1.) and his ancestors had held it ever since by right and inheritance^g. There was an assise between them in 6 Joh. (1204)^h, but judgment was not then given. *Henry de Alneto*, though not so described, must have been the eldest son of *Joyce*, but dying s. p. was succeeded by his brother *Hugh de Alneto*, on whose decease about 15 Hen. 3 (1230) Turvey and the Bedfordshire patrimony was divided between his two sisters and coheirressesⁱ. *Henry de Alneto*, the plaintiff, was eventually successful, and his son *Henry de Alneto*, by a deed without date, but which the attestation of sir Richard Bassett, sheriff of the county, fixes between 35 and 36 Hen. 3 (1249-51), granted to

Thomas Kynne, of Northampton, for his good services, three knights' fees in "Maydford, Siberford, & Soutton," and in Maydford the capital messuage, which was his father's, and all his lands there, together with the wood belonging to the said messuage and all homages and services, viz. homage of sir Simon de Pateshull for one virgate, of the prior of Ashby a pair of white gloves or a penny for the land he held of him, of William de Cauz a pound of cummin for his land, of Geoffrey, brother of the grantor, 2d. for two virgates, of Isabella, Margery, Eustachia, Elen, and Sarah, sisters of the grantor, 5d. for five virgates, with several others particularly enumerated, and also all the privileges which he or his father had in the mill of Maydford, to hold to the said Thomas and his heirs of sir William Burdet and his heirs, together with the homage and service of Siberford and Soutton, to the vill of Maydford belonging. Amongst the witnesses to this deed, besides the sheriff of the county already noticed, were Roger, son of Theobald, mayor of Northampton, and Henry, son of Robert, and John Sampson, bailiffs of Northampton^a. Siberford was probably Sibford in Oxfordshire, but I am at a loss to appropriate Soutton. It will be observed that in the last deed the grantee was made to hold of Burdet the intermediate lord between the grantor and Quincy the paramount lord; but in another deed from this Henry, son of Henry de Alneto, attested by the same witnesses with one or two variations, granting to the said Thomas Kynne, "Maydford" with the capital messuage, lands, woods, homages, and services, and privileges of the mill as before, but omitting all mention of the fees of Siberford and Soutton, the grantee is bound to render yearly to the chief lord the service due^a.

* *Cartigan MSS. E.* ^b *Rot. Orig.* 8 Edw. 2, r. 5.

ton. *MSS. Vesp. E. xij. fs. 95b.* ^c Halstead, p. 11.

^d *Hutton MSS.* p. 150b. ^e *Placit. Ric. & Joh.* p. 113.

^f *Vide BRACKLEY*, vol. 1. p. 561.

^g *Queso Warr.* 3 Edw. 3. ^h Halstead's *Genealogies* (1655), p. 6.

ⁱ *Hutton MSS.* "Placit. Ric. & Joh." p. 113. ^j *Ibid.* p. 157.

^k *Grant evidences.*

^l *Cot.*

^m *Placit.* p. 32.

BURDET AND ALNETO, OF MAIDFORD.

From Halstead's Genealogies, with additions from public records and other authorities.

Arms. BURDET. Azure, two bars Or. ALNETO. Argent, a lion rampant Gules, charged on the shoulder with a shield Or, three martlets Azure.

HUGH DE BURDET, mesne lord of Maidford, co. North. and of Lewesby, co. Leic. &c. temp. Will. Conq.
 WILLIAM BURDET, of Lewesby, co. Leic. EMELINE, to whom he m. PAGAN DE ALNETO, of Turvey, co. Bedf.
 father gave Maidford in 1 & of Maidford *jure m.* temp. Hen. 1.
 marriage.

BURDET OF BRAMCOTE, co. Warw. BART.

Sir HENRY DE ALNETO, of Maidford & Turvey, ANNE, dau. of William Lister, temp. Hen. 1.
 bur. in St. Nood's priory, Hunts.

HERBERT DE ALNETO, of Lunden, co. Bucks, by grant from his father.

HUGH DE ALNETO, ob. s. p.
 Sir HALENARD OF ALAN DE ALNETO, of Maidford and Turvey, 12 Hen. 2 (1172).

PHILIPPA, dau. of Sir Gilbert de Plakeney, of Wedon Plakeney.

HENRY DE ALNETO.

GERARD DE ALNETO, grandfather of Henry de Alneto, who claimed Maidford 2 Joh. (1202).

Sir WILLIAM DE ALNETO, of Joyke, dau. of Richard Engayne, had Maidford in dower, living 2 Ric. (1190).
 6 Ric. (1194), dead 1 Joh. (1192).

HUGH DE ALNETO, prior of hosp. of St. John of Jerusalem, circ. 1200.

ALEXANDER DE ALNETO.

RICHARD DE ALNETO, father of Henry.

HENRY DE ALNETO, defended his right to Maidford, as grand-son of Turvey, living 15 Joh. (1199), ob. s. p.

1. ALICE, eldest daughter of MORTIMER, dau. of Turvey, living 15 Ric. (1197) & 16 Hen. 3 (1211).

2. SARAH, eldest daughter of RICHARD DE ALNETO, living 15 Ric. (1197) & 16 Hen. 3 (1211).

3. SARAH, eldest daughter of MAUNSELL OF THORP MAUNSELL, living 15 Ric. (1197) & 16 Hen. 3 (1211).

MORDEANT EARL OF PETERBOROUGH, ref. Vide DRAUGHTON HOUSE.

RICHARD DE ALNETO, had moiety of Turvey from his uncle Hugh.

MAUNSELL OF THORP MAUNSELL, living 15 Ric. (1197) & 16 Hen. 3 (1211).

HENRY DE ALNETO, claimed Maidford 1 Joh. (1190), living 6 Joh. (1200).

HENRY DE ALNETO, of Maidford, sold Maidford circ. 12 Hen. 3 (1210).
 GREGORY DE ALNETO, 35 Hen. 3 (1250).

1. h. SIMON DE HALSTED, gave lands to Ashby priory.

FRABELLA, living 35 Hen. 3 (1250) 1 w. of Wm. de Cez.

MARGERY, 35 Hen. 3 (1250).
 ESTACIA, 35 Hen. 3 (1250).
 ELEAN, 35 Hen. 3 (1250).
 SARAH, 35 Hen. 3 (1250).

Vide MORTON PINKNEY.

View of frank pledge or court leet was a privilege enjoyed by lords of hundreds or of honors, whilst court baron was an inseparable incident to every manor; and though in process of time many lords of manors held both court leet and court baron, yet the origin of these exceptions to the general rule is seldom traceable, and the following is the only specific conveyance of the privilege which I have ever met with from the paramount lord to his feudatory. Roger de Quincy, earl of Winchester, and constable of Scotland, grants to Thomas Kyne, of Northampton, and his heirs, view of frank pledge, and whatsoever to view of frank pledge belongs, as well in all things assisable as in those things which may be acquired by pleas; and grants that the said Thomas and his heirs, and all men whosever, freemen and others, as well of the fee of the said Thomas in "Maydeford & Atteneston" as of those who were formerly of the fee of Sir Henry de Alneto, shall be free from all manner of suit to his court and his heirs, rendering therefore to him and his heirs two pence of silver yearly at the feast of St. Michael for all services, customs, occasions, and things to him and his heirs belonging; and the said Thomas and his heirs shall have full, free, and entire court of all their men, as well freemen as others, and neither he nor his heirs shall come to his court, or of his heirs, unless the said Thomas and his heirs shall personally implead any one, or shall be personally impleaded by any one. This deed is undated, but the date is supplied by another curious document which furnishes the price of the privilege, being the actual receipt for the purchase money. To all to whom this present writing shall come, Roger de Quincy, earl of Winchester and constable of Scotland, greeting: Know that I have received of Thomas Kyne, of Northampton, ten marks of silver (£6. 13s. 4d.) in which he was bound to me for a fine which he made for view of frank pledge which I have granted to him: in witness whereof I have made these my letters patent. Given at London the Friday before the purification of the blessed Mary 38th Hen. fil. Johis (1254).

Robert Kyne, son of this Thomas, was certified to be lord of Maidford in 9 Edw. 2 (1315), and his descendants pursued the "even tenor of their way" down to William Kyne, son and heir of Richard Kyne, who, in 30 Hen. 6 (1452), released to

William Trist, of Maidford, all his right and claim to the manor of "Maydeford" with all its pertinencies. His grandson William Trist, esq. died in 20 Henry 8 (1528) seized of the manor and advowson of Maidford, held of the earl of Derby, as of the honor of Winchester by service of 2d. yearly—the reserved rent in the grant from Roger de Quincy, earl of Winchester, to Kyne—leaving William his son and heir aged fourteen years; from whom they descended in an unbroken line of succession to Andrew Trist, M.D. who died without issue in 1749, having by his will in 1748 devised one moiety to his nephew

Samuel Barker, of Lyndon in Rutlandshire, esq. for life, remainder to all his children as tenants in common in fee, and the other moiety to his niece Elizabeth Dawes for life, remainder to all her children as tenants in common in fee. At the time of the inclosure in 1778, Thomas, Sarah, Elizabeth, and Anne Barker, the children of Samuel, were entitled to eleven fourteenths of the manor and advowson, Elizabeth Buckley, daughter and heiress of Thomas Dawes, to one fourteenth, and Charles Simon Oakden and Thomas Chapman, gent., to one fourteenth each by purchase. By a separate award in 1779 made by the commissioners in pursuance of a power in the inclosure act to that effect, the whole of the manor and advowson were allotted to the Barkers, and the sisters dying unmarried, the whole eventually centred in their brother Thomas Barker, esq. whose only son Samuel Barker, esq. in 1811 sold his entire estate here in lots.

* Grant evidences.

* Cardigan MSS. "Nom. VII." p. 6.

* Grant evidences.

* Esc. 30 Hen. 8.

On the sale of the Barker property in 1811, the manor was purchased by *William Grant*, of Litchborough*, and of the Middle Temple, esq. the present proprietor (1833). He is one of the commissioners appointed by parliament "for inquiring concerning charities."

GRANT OF LITCHBOROUGH, 1833.

From parish register of Litchborough* and information of the family.

Arms. Gules, a fess dancette Ermine between three antique crowns Or. *Crest.* On a wreath of the colours, a conical hill fired at the summit Proper, issuant therefrom a cross calvary Or. *Motto.* Stand sure.

THOMAS GRANT, came from Scotland in 1715, ob. 1743. MARY BORMAN.

THOMAS GRANT, of Bursley, — PIERRE, only child of John Pinckard, of Caldecote, by his 2nd w. Elizabeth Hopenraf, co. Oxon, born 1718, ob. 1738. — WILL. of Edward Bloxham, gent. mar. at Eaton Neston 14 Feb. 1744-5, ob. 1762.



1. THOMAS—ANN, dau. of GRANT, of Litchborough, esq. married there 19 Nov. ob. 7 Sept. 1776, living Sept. 1803, act. 38.

2. EDWARD GRANT, of Leigh-ton Buz-zard, co. mar. ob. un-mar. Bedford, gent. liv-ing 1833.

3. JOHN—HANNAH, d. of Jos. Brooke, gent. mar. 14 June, 1780, liv-ing 1833.

PIERRE, ob. 1790; w. of Rev. Robinson Lawford, of Towcester, rector of Brad-den and vicar of Eaton Neston, ob. 25 Feb. 1795.

MARY, liv. 1833; ELIZA-BETH, un-m., 1833.

1. WILLIAM GRANT, of Litchborough and of the Temple, esq. barrister at law, born 18 Mar. bapt. at Towcester 29 Mar. 1779, living 1833.

2. EDWARD GRANT, of Litchborough, esq., born 26 Jan. bapt. at Towcester 29 Dec. 1781, ob. 14 June, bar.* 18 June, 1812, et. 31.

JANE, eldest d. and coh. of Robert Marriott, of Bally, gent. ob. 13 Nov. bar.* 18 Nov. 1811, et. 31.

HANNAH, living 1833; mar. 14 June 1808, Francis Dar-bey, of Colebrook Dale, co. Salop, esq. living 1833.

ELIZABETH, living 1833; mar. at Castlethorpe, co. Bucks, 30 Sep. 1813, Wm. James Bailly, of Shenley, co. Bucks, esq. living in 1833.

WILLIAM GRANT, of the Temple, esq. barrister at law, bar.* 8 Sept. 1803.

JANE, bar.* 7 Dec. 1807, ob. un-m. 16 Jan. bar.* 23 Jan. 1833.

ANNE, bar.* 11 Nov. 1808.

CHARLOTTE, bar.* 25 June 1810.

Court leet and Court baron are occasionally held for the manor.

CAUZ LAND. Henry de Alneto by fine in 35 Hen. 3 (1250) settled a carucate of land in "Maydeford" on *William de Cauz* and Isabella his wife, remainder to the said Isabella^a, who was his eldest sister; and in 50 Hen. 3 (1265) there was a plea respecting this land between William de Cauz and Thomas Kynne^b, who probably claimed it as a part of his purchase. It seems, however, to have been confirmed to Cauz, and on the failure of his heirs to have reverted as an escheat to the chief lord; for in 9 Hen. 4 (1408) John lord Lovell died seised of a messuage and carucate of land at Maidford in right of his wife *Matilda Holland*^c, and the same entry occurs in the inquisition after the death of their grandson *William Lord Lovell* in 33 Hen. 6 (1455)^d, but not later, and may, not improbably, be identified with the lands held afterwards by the families of Coles of PRESTON CAPES^e, and Knightley of FAWLSLEY^f, and certainly with the three virgates and a half in Maidford held by *Matthew Seyton*, of sir John Egerton (afterwards earl of Bridgewater) and Frances his wife, as of their manor of Maidford and Woodford^g.

CANONS ASHBY PRIORY LANDS. Henry de Alneto gave to the priory of Ashby, 15s. 4d. yearly rent out of lands in "Maydeford" for the support of a canon there to minister for his soul^h, which was confirmed by Henry, son of Henry de Alnetoⁱ, and ratified by Roger de Quincy, earl of Winchester, in 1252 (38 Hen. 3)^j. Helwise, formerly wife of Simon de Pinkene^k (of Morton) with consent of John de Schelford her husband, and Henry de Alneto her father, gave to the priory with her body 34s. yearly rent out of her free marriage portion, viz. 24s. out of two mills in "Maydeford" with 10s. out of two virgates of land in Atteneston^l, and Henry de Alneto confirmed the grant of his daughter^m. William de Cauz gave two cultures of land in "Maydefordⁿ," and in the time of prior John Burton the monks had 2s. yearly rent from John Kynne, lord of "Maydeford," issuing out of certain lands there^o. In the ecclesiastical survey of 1535 (26 Hen. 8)^p, and in the minister's accounts at the dissolution^q, the temporalities of Ashby priory in Maidford were returned at 34s. 4d. *per ann.* In 33 Hen. 8 (1542) they were granted to Anthony Stringer and John Williams^r; but concealed lands here belonging to the priory in possession of William Trist, were discovered and granted in 18 Eliz. (1576) to John and William Marshe^s.

LUFFIELD PRIORY LANDS. Henry, son of Henry de Alneto, granted a messuage with pertinencies in "Maydeford" to Geoffrey de Bradden, son of Henry de Norton^t, who gave it to the blessed Mary of Luffield and the monks there^u.

THE HOSPITAL OF ST. JOHN OF JERUSALEM had lands in Maidford, which did suit to the view of frank pledge at Blakesley^v.

THE MANOR HOUSE of the Trists stood west of the church, and is said to have occupied a double quadrangle. Part of it has been converted into a farm house, and some of the offices are still remaining.

THE VILLAGE is situated about six miles from Towcester. In the time of Bridges there were 'forty-nine houses, whereof one was a fulling mill^w.' By the census of 1801, it contained 47 houses and 228 inhabitants; by that of 1811, 50 houses and 234 inhabitants; by that of 1821, 62 houses and 319 inhabitants; and by that of 1831, 70 houses, 373 inhabitants. The annual quota of land tax for this parish is £72. 18s. 6d. at 4s. in the £. The esti-

^a Hutton MSS. "Fin. 35 Hen. 3."

^b Cardigan MSS. L. p. 149.

^c Esc. 9 Hen. 4, n. 29.

^d Esc. 33 Hen. 6, n. 28.

^e Esc. 30 Hen. 8, n. 43.

^f Esc. 35 Hen. 8, n. 27 & 8 Eliz.

^g Esc. 10 Jac. p. 1, n. 87.

^h CANONS Ashby Cartulary, fo. 96.

ⁱ Ibid. fo. 28.

^j Ibid. fo. 29.

^k Ibid. fo. 27.

^l Aug. Off.

^m Grant evidences.

ⁿ Pat. 18 Eliz.

^o Luffield Priory Cartulary, fo. 95.

^p Ibid. fo. 95b.

^q Quo Warr. 3 Edw. 3.

^r Br. 1. p. 247.

^s Vide BRACKLEY, vol. 1, p. 261.

mated value of real property as assessed to the property tax of 10 *per cent.* for the year ending April 1815, amounted to £1439. The poor's rates for the year ending Easter 1832, raised £285. 12s. at 8s. in the £. The wake follows St. Peter.

THE ADVOWSON was appurtenant to the manor till Henry de Alneto by a deed without date, but attested by sir William de Culworth, sheriff of the county 25 Hen. 3 (1240) for 40 marks (£26. 13s. 4d.), sold it with a messuage and virgate of land to Robert, son of Richard de Northampton, to hold by the render of a pair of white gloves or 1d. yearly, and to be quit from suit to his court^r. By another deed without date, but which by the witnesses may be placed towards the close of the reign of Edw. 1, or beginning of Edw. II., Thomas, son of Peter, son of Robert de Northampton, quit claimed and confirmed to Robert Kynne, of Maydford, all his right in the advowson of Maydford, and a virgate of land which Thomas Kynne, father of Robert, had of the gift of Richard, son of Robert de Northampton, uncle of Thomas, whose heir he was, to hold by the render of a rose flower yearly for all secular services and exactions, except foreign service to the king when it should happen^r. The advowson thus becoming reunited to the manor, continued so till 1811, when, on the sale of the Barker estate, it was purchased by the rev. Sampson White, father of the rev. Sampson Henry White, the present rector, who in Nov. 1829 sold it to William Grant, esq. and the advowson has thus again become attendant on the manor.

THE RECTORY is in the deanry of Brackley. In the taxation of 1254 (38 Hen. 3)^a, and of 1291 (20 Edw. 1)^b, it was rated at 9 marks (£6 *per ann.*; and in the ecclesiastical survey of 1535 (26 Hen. 8) at £28. 19s. 4d. *per ann.* deducting 10s. 7d. for synodals and procurations to the archdeacon of Northampton^c. The parliamentary commissioners in 1655 certified it to be a parsonage presentative in the patronage of Richard Trist, esq., and that Mr. Brock the incumbent supplied the cure, which was worth £40 yearly^d. The rectory now consists of 175 acres, allotted by the commissioners of inclosure in lieu of the glebe lands, and of all tithes of the open fields, and of the homesteads and old inclosures belonging to those persons who had sufficient land to exonerate them, and who consented to submit their claims to the commissioners; and the tithes of several old inclosures and homesteads, containing about 100 acres, and about 30 acres of Sewell wood, as specified in a schedule annexed to the award, for which no compensation was made to the rector by the commissioners. The rectory house is a neat residence at the south end of the village.

RECTORS. *Robert de Atteneston*, clerk, by Henry de Alneto, 1219.

Ralph, son of Roger, 1226.

Robert de Northampton, chaplain, 1229. He was vicar of Sulgrave from 1222 to 1264.

William Sproue by Robert de Kynne.

Ralph de Plumpton, clerk, by the same 4 June 1289. He was rector of Greens Norton from 1297 to 1322.

Richard de Plumpton, chaplain, by the same, 20 Jan. 1297.

Mast. Thomas de Sutton, priest, 14 Jan. 1326.

Robert de la Hay, clerk, 2 May 1346.

Lawrence de Warewyk, priest, by Peter Malore, 23 Jan. 1361.

Sir John Cayse by Richard Kynne. He exchanged for the rectory of Wappenham, with

Sir Thomas Baron, priest, 4 March 1383, on the presentation of the same patron.

Richard Wadeford, priest, 1 July 1385.

Mathew Bulloe, 31 Oct. 1390.

Sir John Lovell, by John Everdon, Robert Ragenhull, and John Russell, clerk, with the consent of Richard Kynne.

Edmond Langford, 1 May 1415.

Roger Willughby, priest, by William Kynnelmersh, Robert Ragenhull, and John Everdon, 2 June 1417.

John Albon, by William Tryst, 10 March 1422.

William Colyns, priest, 21 Dec. 1427.

Sir Robert Bolyngton, priest, by John, son of William Truste, 18 Feb. 1458. He has already occurred under Fawsley.

Richard Bayley, clerk, 14 Jan. 1463.

Sir Thomas Russell, priest, 17 Nov. 1479, already noticed under Harpole.

Sir Eustach. Bernard, priest, 24 March 1482. He was third son of John Bernard, esq. of Abington^e, and was rector of Thenford 1467, Tarporley in Cheshire 1481, and Yardley Hastings 1499.

Sir Thomas Terett, priest, 21 May 1491.

Sir George Symond, chaplain, by Elizabeth Tryste, widow, 17 July 1513.

Sir Walter Westbury, chaplain, by Thomas Stutesbury, of Filgrave (Oxon), gent., Richard Byrde, John Byrde, and Thomas Adams, of Plumpton, by a grant from Thomas Newessam and Leticia his wife, 25 June 1532.

George Sanders, by William Trist, gent. On his resignation

Richard Matheue was presented by the same patron, and instituted 1 Dec. 1563. He was also rector of Helmdon. *William Caltie*, was inst. 21 Sept. 1585.

Nathaniel Brock was presented by Richard Trist, esq. and inst. 26 Oct. 1624, on the decease of the last incumbent. He was buried here 23 Apr. 1672^f, and

Thomas Gore, of Jesus coll. Camb. A.M. was inst. 21 May following, on the presentation of Thomas Trist, esq. He was buried here 31 Aug. 1689^g, and

Henry Wallbank, of Trin. coll. Oxf. A.M. was presented by the same patron, and inst. 30 Oct. following. He was buried here 27 July 1729^h, and was succeeded by another

Henry or Harry Wallbank, who was buried here 29 Jan. 1736-7ⁱ, when

Knighley Steward was presented by Andrew Tryst, M.D. and inst. 17 May following. He had been vicar of Cotterstock cum Glaphthorn from 1702 to 1705, and of Brigstock from 1705 to 1737. He was buried here 19 Nov. 1746^j, and

Samuel West was inst. 31 Dec. following on the presen-

^a Grant Evidences.

^c Cotton MSS. Nero D. x. fo. 179.

^d Tax. Eccl. p. 38.

^e Aug. Off.

^f Lambeth MSS. vol. 20

^g Br. 1. p. 249.

^h Par. Reg.

ⁱ Vide ABRINGTON, p. 10.

tation of the same patron. He obtained the rectory of Plumpton in 1753, and held both benefices till his death. He was buried here 3 Dec. 1767*, when

Gilbert Mabbott, of Pemb. coll. Oxf. A.M. was presented by Thomas Barker, Sarah, Elizabeth, and Anne Barker, Edmund Buckby, James Sismey, William Wyatt, Thomas Armstead, and Thomas, Anne, and Sarah Dawes, and inst. 5 May 1768. His death introduced

Michael O'Clare, who was inst. 24 May 1772 on the presentation of Thomas Barker, Sarah, Elizabeth, and Anne Barker, James Sismey, Thomas Armstead, Thomas Dawes, J. Sandys, Edmund Buckby, Sarah Dawes, and William Wyatt. In 1787 he received the thanks of the grand jury of the county for his able and indefatigable exertions as a magistrate in discovering and bringing to justice the notorious "Culworth gang" of housebreakers

and highwaymen, who were the terror of this and the neighbouring counties for nearly twenty years. He was lineally descended from sir Thomas de Clare, brother of Gilbert, commonly called "the red earl of Gloucester," as appears from a pedigree in the possession of his son sir Michael Benignus Clare, knt. M.D. physician general of Jamaica, and a member of the legion of honour. He was succeeded by

Samson White, of Oriel coll. Oxf. A.M. nephew of the author of the natural history of Selbourne, who was presented by Thomas Barker, esq. and Sarah Barker, and inst. 17 May 1798. He was buried here 7 Dec. 1825*, and his son

Samson Henry White, of Merton coll. Oxf. was inst. 22 May 1826 on his own presentation.

THE REGISTER, according to Bridges 'bears date in 1550*,' but the early volumes have been lost within the last forty years, and the earliest entry now extant is in 1717.

THE CHURCH dedicated to St. Peter stands at the upper end of the village, and consists of a tower containing two bells, nave, south aisle and porch, and chancel. The tower is of the kind locally termed a packaddle steeple. The whole of the windows have been despoiled of their tracery. The tower is 11 ft. 9 in. long, by 7 ft. 4 in. wide; the nave and aisle 38 ft. 9 in. long, the nave 17 ft. and the aisle 9 ft. 7 in. wide; and the chancel 24 ft. 8 in. long by 11 ft. 10 in. wide. The interior was neatly paved and pewed in 1812, and has a west gallery. There is a small modern font in the chancel. The nave is divided from the aisle by three pointed arches on low octangular pillars, with capitals of plain mouldings. In the south wall of the chancel is a piscina.

MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS.

NAVE. Slabs for,

1. Mary Merival, bur. 2 July 1711.
2. Elizabeth, w. of Tho^s Osborne, 23 June 1717, æt. 57.
Thomas Osborne, husband of the above, 7 Aug. 1720, æt. 65.
Martha, d. of Tho^s Osborne by Mary his 2d wife, 23 Aug. 1724, æt. 4.
3. Mary, d. of Michael & Theophila Warwick, 1698, æt. 21.

4. On a brass plate,
Of po^r charitable pray for the soul of John Wreight, which died the xxiii day of April 1674.

5. ELIZABETH,
widow of
HENRY WHITE A.M.
formerly Rector of
Fyfield in Hampshire.
Born April 16, 1735,
Died Dec. 9th 1815.

CHANCEL. I. On a neat marble tablet against the south wall: *arms*, O. a chevron G. between three popinjays Vt. beaked and membered, with rings about their necks of the 2d, within a border Az. charged with six Besants. *White*. Crest: On a wreath, a demi-popinjay Vt. beaked and membered, with rings round its neck G. wings expanded O. holding in its beak an olive branch Proper.

SACRED
TO THE MEMORY OF
JOHN WHITE, ESQ. M.D.
ONLY SON OF JOHN WHITE, A.M. FORMERLY VICAR OF
BLACKBURN IN LANCASHIRE:
HE WAS BORN AT GIBRALTAR JAN. 4, 1759,
AND DIED AT BLAKESLEY JUNE 30, 1821:
HE FIRST MARRIED LOUISA, DAUGHTER OF
RICHARD NEAVE, ESQ. OF NUNTON, WILTS:
SHE DYING IN THE EAST INDIES JAN. 1802,
HE MARRIED IN NOV. 1809 ELIZABETH
DAUGHTER OF THE REV. HENRY WHITE, OF FYFIELD, HANTS:
OF SUPERIOR TALENTS AND ACQUIREMENTS, HE ATTAINED
A HIGH DEGREE OF KNOWLEDGE AND CELEBRITY IN HIS PROFESSION,
WHICH IN EARLY LIFE HE PURSUED WITH THE UTMOST ZEAL AND
ACTIVITY, AND ALWAYS MOST ABLY, KINDLY, AND BENEFICENTLY:
HE ENTERED ON THE ARDUOUS LABOURS OF HIS PROFESSION
AT SALISBURY, AT WHICH PLACE HE SETTLED, AND CONTINUED
SOME YEARS IN THAT ESTIMATION WHICH THE DUE EXERCISE
OF EMINENT TALENTS ARE ALWAYS SURE TO PROCURE:
HE THEN PASSED SOME YEARS IN THE EAST INDIES, AND HIS LIFE
WAS AFTERWARDS VARIED BY MANY TRYING SCENES AND

* Par. Reg.

CIRCUMSTANCES IN DIFFERENT COUNTRIES,
THROUGH ALL OF WHICH HIS BENIGN AND ELASTIC SPIRIT SUPPORTED HIM,
AIDED BY HIS UNSHAKEN TRUST IN A MERCIFUL PROVIDENCE,
EVEN WHEN HIS CONSTITUTION BECAME WORN AND IMPAIRED!
THOUGH JUSTLY ESTEEMED AND BELOVED BY A NUMEROUS CIRCLE OF
FRIENDS AND ACQUAINTANCE,
HIS REAL KINDNESS AND GOODNESS OF HEART
COULD BE ONLY SUFFICIENTLY AND DULY APPRECIATED BY HER
WHO WAS BLESSED WITH HIS AFFECTION AND CONFIDENCE
DURING THE LAST TWELVE YEARS OF HIS LIFE,
AND WHOSE UNCEASING LOVE AND GRATITUDE
PROMPT THIS HEARTFELT TRIBUTE TO HIS VIRTUES.
MAY THE ALMIGHTY FOR EVER BLESS AND REWARD HIM!

6. Here lieth the Body
of the Rev.
Mr. *Knightsley Steward*, A.M.
Rector of this Parish,
who departed this
Life Nov. the 15th 1746,
Aged 81.

7. In Memory of ANDREW TRYST,
Doctor of Physic, who dyed
Oct. 11th 1749, in the 82nd year
of his age.

ALSO
In Memory of
Mrs. ANN TRYST,

Sister of the said
Doctor TRYST,
who died Jan. 26, 1762,
Aged 89.

There are several other slabs for the Tryst family, now illegible. Bridges records the following inscriptions*:
‘Dorcas, the daughter of Harry Walbank, rector of this parish, and Jane his wife, was buried Oct. the 1st 1704.
‘In Memory of Martha Osborne, interred Jan. the 8th 1705, aged 9 years.

Even springing flowers sometimes doe fade,
And life wrapt up in death's black shade;
Early repentance then's the best,
And surest way to sweetest rest.’

BENEFACTIONS. (Vide p. 2). POOR'S AND CHURCH ALLOTMENTS. On the inclosure in 1778 two small allotments were set out, one for the poor of Maidford, and the other for the repair of the church in lieu of other lands and rights in the open field, which had been from ancient time appropriated to the same purposes. The allotments have never been separated, and form a field of about 10 acres, which is now let for £20. 10s. *per ann.* The moiety of the rent applicable to the poor is distributed by the churchwardens and overseers at Christmas, amongst the poor inhabitants in sums of 1s. and upwards, according to the size of their families; and the other moiety is carried to the account of the church rate.

MORTON PINKENEY,

in domesday, simply “Mortone,” is evidently allusive to its original situation, and is literally the moor-town with the adjunct of Pinkeney from its ancient lords. In records of the fourteenth century it is sometimes written “Gilden Morton,” but the origin or application of this prefix must be left to conjecture. The lordship contains 2320 acres. The open fields, containing 1270 acres, were inclosed by act of parliament 1 Geo. 3 (1760). The principal proprietors are Edward Candler, esq. lord of the manor, who had about 390 acres; Miss Joanna Jarvis, of Thenford, about 140 acres; Henry Cadwallader Adams, of Anstey Hall, Warwickshire, about 140 acres; Miss Elizabeth Baily, of Shenley, Buckinghamshire, about 125 acres; and Mr. Samuel Jones, Mr. Richard Yeomans, of Badby, and Mr. George Watson, of Wardington, Oxfordshire, about 100 acres each. It is bounded on the north by Canons Ashby; east by Adston and Plumpton, and south-east by Weston by Wedon; south by Salgrave in Wardon hundred; south-west by Culworth in Sutton hundred, and north-west by Eydon in Wardon hundred. The soil varies, but is principally of a light staple on a limestone substratum. There are about 400 acres of arable land, and the remainder is in pasture.

In the great oolite of this lordship, which is only worked for the repair of the roads, the undermentioned fossils have been discovered: *Acteon. Buccinum unilineatum?* Sowerby's Min. Conch. pl. 485, f. 5 and 6. *Turritella*, various species. *Turbo* near to *obtus.* *Nerita costata*, Phillips, pl. 11, f. 32. *Trochus*, various species. *Panopaea gibbosa*, Min. Conch. pl. 42. *Lucina crassa*. *Nucula*. *Trigonia*, new species; and *Astarte pumila*, Min. Conch. pl. 444, f. 4—6. The subjacent fullers' earth rock, separating the two oolites, furnishes smooth spines of *Cedaris*. *Cidarites crenularis*,

* Br. 1. p. 249.

Goldfuss, pl. 40, f. 6. *Cidarites subangularis*, ibid. pl. 40, f. 8. *Nucleolites scutatus*, ibid. pl. 43, f. 6. *Scutatus* var. *depressus*, ibid. pl. 43, f. 1. *Nucleolites*, ibid. new species? *Clypeus orbicularis*, Phillips, pl. 7, f. 3. *Amphularia*, new species. *Trochus anglicus*, Min. Conch. pl. 142. *Venus*, several new species. *Palustris*, various species. *Modiola imbricata*, Min. Conch. pl. 212, f. 1 and 3. *M. Hilliana*, ibid. pl. 212, f. 2. *Mytilus sublevia*, ibid. pl. 439, f. 3. *Plagiostoma cardiformis*, ibid. pl. 113. *Pecten annulatus*, ibid. pl. 542, f. 2. *Ostrea acuminata*, ibid. pl. 135, f. 3. *Ostrea*, various species. *Terebratula concinna*, ibid. pl. 83, f. 6. *T. intermedia*, ibid. pl. 15, f. 8. *T. intermedia*, var. ? ibid. pl. 15, f. 8. *T. obsoleta jun.* ibid. pl. 83, f. 7; and *Terebratula*, various new species.

MANORIAL HISTORY. PINKENEY FEE^a. *Leuric*† held "Mortone" freely in the time of Edward the confessor, and it was then valued at £8 yearly, but was reduced to £4—though the whole was in occupation—at the domesday survey, when it was held by *Goisfrid* under *Ghilō*, brother of *Ansculf*. It contained a hide and a half. The arable land was six carucates; of which three were in demesne with five servants, and fourteen villeins and three bordars had the remaining three. There were thirty acres of meadow^a.

MANOR. *Goisfrid*, the domesday mesne lord, besides Morton, had also Astwell, and the Pinkenevy portion of Siresham, all of which, with the other lands held by the domesday feudatories, reverted to the lord of the fee prior to the reign of Henry II. and were made the appanages of the different cadets of the Pinkenevy family. Their descent, and the relative connection of each with the baronial house, will be incorporated in the pedigree under *WEDON PINKENEY*. Sir Gilbert de Pinkenevy, in accounting for his barony in 14 Hen. 2 (1167), certified that *Henry* son of *Robert de Pinkenevy*, held of him five fees and a half of the old fiefdom^b. *Henry* de Pinkenevy of Morton, gave the church of Morton and lands there to Canons Ashby priory^c;—and on his death may be presumed to have left his son a minor; whereby the paramount lord becoming entitled, in right of the wardship, to the profits of the land during the minority, sir Gilbert secured the marriage portion of one of his daughters on this estate. *Halensald* de *Alneto*, of *Maidford*, by deed s. d. acknowledged to have received from his brother (in-law) sir *Henry* de Pinkenevy 80 marks (£53, ss. 8d.) in redemption of the land of "Mortona," which was pledged to him for that sum by sir Gilbert de Pinkenevy, father of *Henry*, when he gave him his daughter *Philippa* in marriage^d. *Henry* de Pinkenevy was returned in the hydariam of Hen. 2, to hold a hide and a half in "Mortona," and the same *Henry* had two hides and eight small virgates in "Wedona^e," which completely identifies him with the baronial head of the family, and shews that the heir of the terre-tenant was still within age. After attaining his majority, *Simon de Pinkenevy*, son of *Henry de Pinkenevy*, of Morton, confirmed his father's grant of the church and lands in Morton^f, to Ashby priory^g. He joined the confederated barons against king *John*, but had restitution of his lands on returning to his fealty in 1 Henry 3 (1216)^h. His son of the same names, in 21 Hen. 3 (1237)ⁱ, and in other divisions of the Testa de *Nevill*^j, answered for two fees in "Morton" and two in *Sulgrave*, *Siresham*, *Astwell*, and *Faucot*, of the barony of *Henry* de Pinkenevy. 'In the scutage assessed in the seventh year of *Edward I.* (1275), for carrying on the war against the *Welch*^k, *William de Pinkenevy* accounted for two knights' fees in Morton which he held of *Robert*, who was at that time under age, and in ward to the king; and in the book of knights' fees 24 Edw. 1 (1295) he was found to hold these two fees of *Robert* de Pinkenevy^l. Sir *Robert de Pinkenevy*, son of *William*, was lord of Morton in 9 Edw. 2 (1315)^m, and died in 14 Edw. 2 (1321) seised of the manor of "Gilden Morton," held of the king by service of one fee, leaving *William*, his son and heir, aged forty years, 'who in the seventeenth year of this reignⁿ, on paying his relief, had livery of all those lands and possessions which *Robert* his father had held of the king in capite^o.'

In 19 Edw. 2 (1326) *Alice*, daughter of *Robert de Pinkenevy*, by an inquisition *ad q. d.* obtained possession of two messuages and fifty-four acres of land in Morton, settled on her by her father, but which being parcel of the manor, and granted without the royal licence, was then in the hands of the king^p. She enfeoffed *William de St. John*, of *PLUMPTON*, in 11s. yearly rent in Morton, and he died seised of a messuage and virgate of land here^q; but whether it was by virtue of this estate, or of any claim which he made to the manor, that the grant of free warren to him in 1 Edw. 3 (1327) extended into Morton, admits of doubt, for in 3 Edw. 3 (1329) there was an assize between him and *William de Pinkenevy* and *Robert* his son and *Thomas Hudde*, to try whether they had unjustly disseised him of the manor of "Gilden Morton," when the jurors presented that *William* and *Thomas*, but not *Robert*, had disseised him, and had licence to enfeoff *William de St. John* of the manor of "Gilden Morton," on condition that having full seisin he should re-convey and settle it on the said *William de Pinkenevy* and *Juliana* his wife in tail male, remainder to himself in fee, to hold of the king by service of two fees^r. 'In the same year this *William de Pinkenevy* was sentenced to pay a fine, as having not yet taken upon him the order of knighthood, though he had attained his full age, and was possessed of two knights' fees in Morton Pinkenevy.' Notwithstanding the above settlement with *St. John*, this manor was alienated to

Richard de Blundell, who in 11 Edw. 3 (1337) paid a fine of 40s. to the king to be pardoned for having purchased the third part of the manor of "Moreton Pynkeney" from *Robert*, son of *William de Pinkenevy*, and two parts from the said *William de Pinkenevy*. It soon, however, reverted again to *William*, son of *Robert de Pinkenevy*, who in 20 Edw. 3 (1546) levied a fine of the manor of "Gildene Moreton" to

^a Domesd. fo. 227.

^b Vesp. E. xiii. fo. 95 b.

^c Ibid. fo. 102 & 102.

^d Ibid. 2, n. 15.

^e Ibid. 3, n. 16.

^f anno 3 Edw. 3, n. 30^o.

^g WEDON PINKENEY.

^h Lib. Nig. p. 196.

ⁱ Ashby Cartulary, fo. 32 & 40.

^j Br. 1, p. 250. Rot. Pip. anno 7 Edw. 1.

^k Br. 1, p. 250. Rot. Pip. anno 17 Edw. 2.

^l Isaham MSS. N^o 37, p. 149. Placit. 3 Edw. 3.

^m Rot. Orig. 11 Edw. 3, r. 55.

ⁿ Vide WELTON.

^o Canons Ashby Cartulary, fo. 32.

^p Cardigan MSS. G. 3, p. 21.

^q Cardigan MSS. 'Nom. Vill.' p. 65.

^r Inq. ad q. d. 19 Edw. 3, n. 37.

^s Esec. 3 Edw. 3, p. 2, n. 26.

^t Br. 1, p. 250.

^u Halstead's Genealogies, p. 9.

^v Test. Nev. fo. 156.

^w Ibid. p. 8.

^x Esec. 5 Edw. 3, n. 30 & 31.

^y Br. 1, p. 250.

^z Placit. Corum.

Sir John Molins and *Egidia* his wife^s, and released to them all his right and claim^r. The same year *sir John* answered for two fees of *Pinkeneys*^s; and the following year he and *Egidia* his wife levied a fine to

Henry de Grene, junior^s, whereby they acknowledged the manor of "Gilden Morton" to be the right of the said *Henry*, except two fees and a half belonging to the manor, which they granted to him with the homage and service of the prior of the hospital of *St. John* of Brackley, of the prior of *Canons Ashby*, of *sir John Giffard* de Boef, and *Henry de Elynton*, for all the lands they held of the said *John* and *Egidia* belonging to the said manor^r. In 30 Edw. 3 (1356) *Henry Grene* gave 40s. for licence to grant the manor of *Morton Pynkenye* with pernicinies to

Giles de St. John and *Isabella* formerly wife of *William de St. John*^s, and the heirs of *Giles*^s. *Isabella* survived her son *Giles*, and on her decease in 2 Hen. 4 (1401) *Margery*, daughter and heiress of *Giles*, and wife of *William Harwedon*, came into possession^d. From her it passed agreeably to the pedigree which will be introduced in *PLUMPTON* till 1 Hen. 7 (1485), when *sir Thomas Harwedon* died seized of this manor held of the king by service of two fees, and 40s. yearly to the castle guard of Windsor, and was succeeded by his sister and heiress *Margaret*, then widow of *William Garnon*, esq. aged sixty years^e. *Joan Skenard* or *Skimerton*, her daughter and heiress by her first husband, carried this manor in marriage to

Sir Richard Knightley, of *FAWSLEY*, and it was included in their extensive estates in this part of the county down to *sir Valentine Knightley*, who in 31 Eliz. (1589) had licence to alienate it to

Samuel Danvers, esq. of *CULWORTH*^f, whose son of the same name died seized of it in 1 Jac. (1603) leaving *John Danvers*, afterwards knighted, his brother and heir aged twenty-one years^g. He probably sold it to

Thomas Crewe, esq. of *STEANE*, of whom *Thomas Hawtyn* was found in 17 Jac. (1619) to hold a virgate and a half of land, as of his manor of *Morton Pinkeneby* by fealty and suit at court^h; and in 6 Car. (1630) *Thomas Tryst*, esq. of *MAIFORD*, died seized of lands held of *sir Thomas Crewe*, as of his manor of *Morton*ⁱ. In 1650 it formed part of the settlement on the marriage of this *sir Thomas Crewe*, afterwards lord *Crewe*, on his marriage with his first wife *Mary Townshend*^k; and in 1680 was included in a general settlement of his estates on himself in tail male, remainder to his brothers *John Crewe*, *Nathaniel Crewe*, and his nephew *Walgrave Crewe* successively in tail male, reserving however a power of revocation, which he exercised in 1693^k.

The next possessors of this manor were the *Cope* family, but I have been unable to ascertain when or of whom they purchased; and "the title deeds were it is supposed burnt in a fire which happened many years since at *sir Jonathan Cope's* mansion-house at *Bruerne* in *Oxfordshire*!" The descent of the elder line of *Cope* has been given under *GLIMSBURY*; of the second line under *CANONS ASHBY*; and the third or *Brewerne* branch is brought down to the extinction of the baronetcy in the subjoined pedigree, which also introduces the connection of the *Candlers* with the last *sir Jonathan Cope*, bart. who by will in 1819 devised *Morton Pinkeneby* to that family; and it is now (1833) in possession of *Edward Candler*, esq. the late lady *Cope's* nephew.

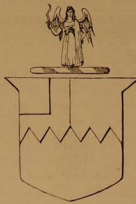
COPE, OF BREWERNE, CO. OXON, AND MORTON PINKENEY, BARONET; AND CANDLER,
OF CALLAN, CO. KILKENNY, AND MORTON PINKENEY.

COPE, from Baronetages and other authorities. CANDLER, from Burke's "History of the Commoners," and information of *Edward Candler*, esq.

Arms. COPE. Argent, on a chevron Azure, between three roses Gules, slitt Proper, as many fleurs de lis Or. Crest. On a wreath a fleur de lis Or, a dragon's head issuing from the top thereof Gules. Motto. *Æquo adepto animo.* CANDLER. Parted in tierce, per fess indented, the chief per pale Azure and Argent, the base Or, a canton Gules. Crest. The figure of an angel Proper, vested Argent, holding in the dexter hand a sword, the blade wavy of the First, pommel and hilt Or. Motto. *Ad mortem fideles.*

JONATHAN COPE, of Ranton, co. Staff. esq. 2nd son of *sir* William Cope, by *Elizabeth Chaworth* (vide *GRIMSBURY*, vol. 1, p. 746).

JONATHAN COPE, of Ranton, co. Staff. esq. 2nd son of *sir* William Cope, by *Elizabeth Chaworth* (vide *GRIMSBURY*, vol. 1, p. 746).



WILLIAM CANDLER, esq. a lieutenant-colonel, settled in Ireland.

1. W. ELLIOTT, esq. 2. THOMAS CANDLER, esq. 3. JOHN CANDLER, esq. 4. ANNE, dau. of *sir* Henry Tuite, of Salsburgh, co. Westmeath, bart. by *Diana Mahbot*, niece of *Edw. Hyde*, the celebrated earl of *Clarendon*. 5. CALLAN, of KILBLINE.

1. *Sir* JONATHAN COPE, bart. 2. *William* COPE, esq. 3. *Anthony* COPE, esq. 4. *Mary*, dau. of *sir* Robert Jenkinson, of Walcot, co. Oxon, bart. 5. *Robert* DASHWOOD, of Northbrook, co. Oxon, bart. 6. *Robert* DASHWOOD, of Northbrook, co. Oxon, bart. 7. *Robert* DASHWOOD, of Northbrook, co. Oxon, bart. 8. *Robert* DASHWOOD, of Northbrook, co. Oxon, bart. 9. *Robert* DASHWOOD, of Northbrook, co. Oxon, bart. 10. *Robert* DASHWOOD, of Northbrook, co. Oxon, bart. 11. *Robert* DASHWOOD, of Northbrook, co. Oxon, bart. 12. *Robert* DASHWOOD, of Northbrook, co. Oxon, bart. 13. *Robert* DASHWOOD, of Northbrook, co. Oxon, bart. 14. *Robert* DASHWOOD, of Northbrook, co. Oxon, bart. 15. *Robert* DASHWOOD, of Northbrook, co. Oxon, bart. 16. *Robert* DASHWOOD, of Northbrook, co. Oxon, bart. 17. *Robert* DASHWOOD, of Northbrook, co. Oxon, bart. 18. *Robert* DASHWOOD, of Northbrook, co. Oxon, bart. 19. *Robert* DASHWOOD, of Northbrook, co. Oxon, bart. 20. *Robert* DASHWOOD, of Northbrook, co. 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SIMON ADAMS, of East Haddon, and afterwards of Ashtey hall, co. Warw. esq. barrister at law, deputy recorder of Northampton 1774 to 1786, recorder of Daventry 1774 to 1781, sold East Haddon 1780, ab. at Bath 10 March, bur. at East Haddon 1801.

SARAH, dau. of Cadwallader Coker, of London, and of Bloister, co. Oxon, esq. mar. at Tottenham, co. Middlesex, 3 Jan. 1776, ab. at Bath 17 July, bur. at Ashtey 26 July 1833, at. 80.

ELIZABETH DORRIS, bur. 2 16 Aug. 1771, ab. 19 May, bur. 25 May 1792, at. 34; 2 w. of Charles 17 May Daventry, esq. ob. 3 April, bur. 10 April 1813, at. 68.

↑
Vide CLIFFTON.

1. HENRY EMMA, eldest dau. of Sir William Currie, of Southgate, co. Middlex. bart. A.M. M.P. for London, bur. at Tottenham, co. Middlesex, 16 June 1803, living 1833.

2. Rev. MARY, Two-son John-son Coker, esq. mar. at Ashtey, 16 Sep. 1806, b. 1792, living 1833.

1 w. ELIZABETH, only dau. of William Nation, of Exeter, esq. mar. at Trinity church, Bath, 27 Aug. 1811, ob. in London 12 Aug. 1814, bur. in St. Sepulchre's church, London.

JOHN ADAMS, 2 w. JANE, dau. of Thomas Martin, of Nottingham, esq. mar. at Queen's chapel, Bath, 21 Jan. 1817, ob. at Hampton, co. Middlesex, 19 June 1825, bur. in St. Sepulchre's church, London.

3. HENRY CADWALLADER, esq. mar. at Queen's chapel, Bath, 21 Jan. 1817, ob. at Hampton, co. Middlesex, 19 June 1825, bur. in St. Sepulchre's church, London.

4. COCKER ADAMS, born 19 Oct. 1827, bur. at St. Pancras, new ch. Middlesex.

SARAH COCKER, bur. 4 Nov. 1778, mar. of John Coker, of Bloister, co. Oxford, esq. mar. at George's, Hanover-sq. Middlesex, 29 Dec. 1826, living 1833.

1. HENRY WILLIAM ADAMS, capt. 18th foot, born Feb. 1803, bapt. at Southgate, co. Middlesex.

1. EMMA CURTIS, born June 1806, bapt. at Ashtey.

1. Rev. SIMON THOMAS ADAMS, A.B. fell. of Bath, esq. born June 1807.

1. MARY PHILADELPHIA, born May 1812, bapt. at Ashtey.

1. JOHN ADAMS, of Christ ch. coll. Oxf. and Craven scholar, bur. 24 Feb. 1812, bapt. at St. Dunstan's in the West, London.

3. HENRY CADWALLADER, born 19 Nov. 1817, bapt. at St. Pancras, new ch. Middlesex.

4. COCKER ADAMS, born 19 Oct. 1827, bur. at St. Pancras, new ch. Middlesex.

2. GEORGE CURTIS ADAMS, midshipman R.N. born Dec. 1807, bapt. at Ashtey.

2. ANNA DELICIA, born Dec. 1810, bapt. at Ashtey.

2. JAMES ADAMS, mste R.N. born June 1809.

2. CATHERINE, born Dec. 1810, bapt. at Ashtey.

2. WILLIAM ADAMS, of Merton coll. Oxf. born 4 Aug. 1814, bapt. at St. Dunstan's in the West, London.

5. CHARLES WARREN ADAMS, born 19 Sept. 1823, bapt. at St. Pancras, new ch. Middlesex.

2. ELIZABETH JANE, born 21 Mar. 1830, ob. 24 May 1832, bur. in St. Sepulchre's ch. London.

4. ANTHONY ROBERTS ADAMS, A.B. fell. of St. John's coll. Oxf. born Sept. 1812, bapt. at Ashtey.

3. LAURA COCKER, born Sept. 1819, bapt. at Ashtey.

3. CADWALLADER ADAMS, born May 1825, bapt. at Ashtey.

6. DANIEL CHARLES OCTAVIUS ADAMS, b. Nov. 1822, bapt. at Ashtey.

4. FRANCES, born July 1824, bapt. at Ashtey.

5. CHARLES WARREN ADAMS, born 19 Sept. 1823, bapt. at St. Pancras, new ch. Middlesex.

2. ELIZABETH JANE, born 21 Mar. 1830, ob. 24 May 1832, bur. in St. Sepulchre's ch. London.

CANONS ASHBY PRIORY had the church of Morton of the gift of Henry de Pinkeney of Morton¹, who gave also three virgates of land in Morton free from all secular service except 1 lb. of pepper yearly², which reserved rent he quitclaimed by a subsequent deed, and added 28. yearly out of half a virgate³. Simon de Pinkeney, son of Henry, confirmed his father's grants⁴, and further ratified the advowson by fine to prior Hugh and the convent in 16 Joh. (1214) p. By other deeds he sold to the prior and convent several of his natives or villeins in Morton. The variation of price arose, I presume, from the different value of their chattels and the numerical state of their families. Robert, son of William de Morton, produced 6s. 8d., Walter, son of Robert de Hornton 5s., John and Adam, sons of Benedict, 13s. 4d., William le Brun 3s. and William, son of Walter de Morton, the extraordinary sum of 20s. 4. William de Pinkeney, lord of Morton, son and heir of Robert de Pinkeney, in 2 Edw. 3 (1328) entered into an agreement with Adam, prior of Canons Ashby, and William, son of Giles de Morton, and the other free tenants, that they should have all the underwood and brakes in the pasture called "Langslade," and might mow, plough, and sow it as they pleased; that the free tenants might mow their meadow and carry their hay through "Littelholmslade," have right of way for horses through the meadow of "Folchiche" to "Swenesbrig," take their beasts to water at "le Ruschene," and fish with nets under "Costede;" and that they might sow three parts of the field every year, but if any of their beasts entered and damaged his grass or pasture, they should be seized to the amount of the damage; and if any of his lambs pastured in their corn lands, they should have common for their beasts in his demesne lands after the hay and corn were carried⁵. In the ecclesiastical survey of 1535 (26 Hen. 8) the temporalities of Ashby priory in Morton were valued at 49s. 2d. yearly; in the minister's accounts prior to the dissolution at 6d. in free rents, and £2. 17s. 8d. in rents of lands and tenements⁶; and in 30 Hen. 8 (1538) were granted to John Edmondes⁷.

BITTLESDEN ABBEY in Buckinghamshire had a portion of Morton Wood, which Robert, son of Robert de Wanci, quitclaimed to the monks⁸, and which was confirmed to them by Simon de Morton, son of Henry de Pinkeney, by the description of all the wood belonging to his vill of Morton in "Whitewood;" and still further confirmed by Robert de Pinkeney⁹, of Wedon, chief lord of the fee.

Morton Pinkeney is a member of the Honor of Grafton, and the inhabitants pay an acknowledgment of one penny for every house, for what is termed smoke money. The court is usually here for Morton, Adston, Blakesley, Wood End, Braden, Plumpton, and Slapton.

THE MANOR HOUSE stands east of the church yard, and though reduced to a farm house, retains some traces of its former consequence.

THE VILLAGE is situated on a descent nearly equidistant about eight miles from Towcester, Brackley, and Daventry. In the time of Bridges it consisted of 'about one hundred families, amongst whom were forty-two freeholders.' By the census of 1801 it contained 83 houses and 420 inhabitants; by that of 1811, 82 houses and 452 inhabitants; by that of 1821, 116 houses and 540 inhabitants; and by that of 1831, 121 houses and 581 inhabitants. The annual quota of land tax for this parish is £143. 9s. 2d. at 4s. in the £. The estimated value of real property as assessed to

¹ Canons Ashby Cartulary, fo. 32.

² Ibid. fo. 33.

³ Ibid. fo. 34.

⁴ Ibid. fo. 32 & 40.

⁵ Ibid. fo. 178.

⁶ Ibid. fo. 52.

⁷ Ibid. fo. 47 to 49.

⁸ Augm. Off.

⁹ Pat. 23 Dec. 30 Hen. 8, p. 2.

¹⁰ Harl. MSS. 4714, fo. 23.

¹¹ Ibid. fo. 94.

the property tax of 10 *per cent.* for the year ending April 1815 amounted to £3177. The poor rates for the year ending Easter 1832, raised £836. 0s. 9d. at 6s. in the £. The wake follows the 19th of September.

ADVOWSON. The endowment of Wedon priory embraced the tithes of all the demesnes of the original Pinkeney fee^a, and in the confirmation charter from Henry de Pinkeney of Wedon, Morton is specified amongst the rest^b; but Morton was then in possession of a junior branch of the family who probably claimed the disposition of the tithes on the formation of the parish, for they certainly did not remain with, if they were ever enjoyed by the monks of Wedon, but passed with the advowson, the grant of which by Henry de Pinkeney, of Morton, to Canons Ashby priory has been recorded in a preceding page. Subsequently to the dissolution,

THE ADVOWSON OF THE VICARAGE OR CURACY continued in the crown till the reign of James I.; but now accompanies the impropriate rectory, and is vested in the provost and fellows of Oriel college, Oxford.

THE RECTORY was rated in the taxation of 1254 (38 Hen. 3) at 15 marks (£10) *per ann.*^c, and in that of 1291 (20 Edw. 1) at the same sum, deducting a yearly pension of 3 marks (£2) to the priory of Canons Ashby^d. Morton is altogether omitted in the ecclesiastical survey of 1535 (26 Hen. 8) under the deanry of Brackley, but under the spiritualities of Canons Ashby priory is entered a pension out of the church of Morton of £6. 13s. 4d. *per ann.*^e In 30 Hen. 8 (1538) the mansion of the rectory of Morton Pinkeney, and certain lands there, were granted to John Edmondes, of Deddington in Oxfordshire^f. In 37 Hen. 8, Michael Fox, of London, did homage for a messuage near the church, and for the rectory of Morton Pinkeney^g. In May 38 Hen. 8 (1546) Edmondes had a licence to alienate his estate here to Thomas Bull^h, who did homage for it, as the rectory of Morton Pinkeneyⁱ. In the same year Robert Wilkins did homage for a moiety of the tithes of hay arising in the parish^j; and in 18 Jac. (1620) Thomas Palmer died seised of a moiety of the tithes of hay^k. The provost and fellows of Oriel college, Oxford, had acquired the impropriate tithes, excepting hay, prior to Dec. 1622, when the inclosure of the Westfield was confirmed by a decree in chancery, and they demised the impropriate tithes of corn to the freeholders in fee farm for ever, at an annual payment of £50; but in 1811 the provost and fellows filed a bill in chancery to set aside the agreement, and succeeded in recovering the corn tithes of the whole parish.

THE VICARAGE, OR PERPETUAL CURACY, is in the deanry of Brackley. In 1215 (17 Joh.) Hugh (Wells) bishop of Lincoln, by a deed witnessed by the archdeacons of Leicester, Northampton, Bedford, Oxford, Stowe, and Huntingdon, granted to the prior and canons of Ashby a perpetual pension of 3 marks (£2) yearly out of the church of Morton^l. In 1 Edw. 2 (1307) the prior of Ashby paid a fine of 100s. to the king for licence to appropriate the church of Morton^m, and 'by way of compensation to the bishop of Lincoln the convent granted away the church of Pottenham in Hertfordshire to the bishop and his successorsⁿ.' No vicarage was endowed, but the incumbents were episcopally instituted till 1372; from which period to the dissolution, the cure was, I apprehend, supplied by one of the monks. Episcopal institutions to the vicarage of Morton commence in the Peterborough registers in 1597, but there is an hiatus from 1617 to 1793, when they re-commence, and have been subsequently continued without intermission.

The inhabitants certified to the parliamentary commissioners in 1655 that the tithes belonged to Oriel college, Oxford, whose allowance to the curate was *ad libitum*, but at present they allowed £25 yearly to Mr. William Milner, who supplied the cure; and that their church was conveniently situated for their own parish to meet in, and there was no other which they conceived might be conveniently adjoined to them. The parliamentary commissioners certified that Morton Pinkeney was one of the towns which stood in need of increase of maintenance^o. It is a discharged living; and in the return of livings under £150 *per ann.* in 1809 the bishop of Peterborough certified it to be of the yearly value of £135. 12s. 6d. arising from glebe, augmentations, tithes, surplice fees, and Easter offerings. It has been twice augmented by Queen Anne's bounty; in 1749 with £200 by lot, and in 1751 with a similar sum to meet a benefaction of the same amount. It now consists of an allotment by the commissioners of inclosure of 78 a. 3 r. 26 p. of land in lieu of the small tithes, and a rate payment of £6. 6s. *per ann.* for the small tithes of old inclosures belonging to persons who had no open land; about 20 a. of land at Priors Marston, Warwickshire, purchased some years since out of the proceeds of Queen Anne's bounty; and 22 a. 2 r. 23 p. of land in Morton purchased by the governors of Queen Anne's bounty in 1826 for £290.

PARSONAGE. Bridges states that 'there was no vicarage house till Mr. Buller, who had an estate here, built one, which cost him £300, towards which the college contributed forty pounds r.' It stands north of the church-yard, and had been neglected or unoccupied many years, till converted into a comfortable residence during Mr. Tyler's incumbency.

RECTORS. John, *Precentor of Lincoln*, by the prior and convent of Evesham.

Mast. Guido de Aricio, 1226.

John de Winton, 1226.

Thomas de Staverton.

Mast. Radcliffe de Buginham, subdeacon, 27 Nov. 1277.

Ralph le Marescall, chaplain, 27 Oct. 1300.

John de Dodeford, 4 March 1309.

Robert de Gavecote, priest, 13 May 1318.

Richard de Tatum, priest, 15 July 1320.

^a Harl. MSS. 4714, fo. 248.

^b Ibid. fo. 248 b.

^c Cotton MSS. Nero D. x. fo. 179.

^d Tax. Ecd. p. 32.

^e Augus. Off.

^f Pat. 23 Dec. 30 Hen. 8, p. 2.

^g Orig. 37 Hen. 8, p. 2, r. 56.

^h Pat. 20 May, 38 Hen. 8, p. 4.

ⁱ Orig. 38 Hen. 8, p. 1, r. 25.

^j Esc. 18 Jac. a. 42.

^k Canons Ashby Cartulary, fo. 32.

^l Orig. 1 Edw. 2, r. 11. Inq. ad q. d. 1 Edw. 2, n. 19, & Pat. 1 Edw. 2, p. 2, n. 11.

^m Br. 1. p. 252. 'Reg. Joh. Dabderby, Ep. Linc.'

ⁿ Lambeth MSS. vol. 20.

^o Br. 1. p. 252.

John de Kelmescot, 20 Feb. 1321.
Adam de Kelmescote, 31 Jan. 1358.
William Warde.
Nicholas de Rose, 27 March 1372.

VICARS, or PERPETUAL CURATES. No other episcopal institution occurs till

Edmund Rideout was presented by the queen, and inst. as vicar 30 Mar. 1597. On his deprivation,

Robert Coles was presented by the king, and inst. 31 Jan. 1604. His decease introduced

Francis Cooper, A.M. who was inst. 4 Dec. 1615, on the presentation of the king. He resigned, and

William Bedford, A.M. was presented by the king, and inst. 14 Feb. 1617. From the close of his incumbency, a cessation of episcopal institutions intervened till the close of the eighteenth century; and in the interval his successors can only be imperfectly gleaned from the parish registers.

William Byrde, occurs in 1641.

William Milner, 1655 and 1656.

Richard Warre is stated by Dr. Calamy to have been ejected for non-conformity in 1662, but afterwards conformed, and continued preaching there till the 80th year of his age*. He was however only silenced for half a year,

during which time one Mr. Bett officiated in his stead, when he returned into the bosom of the church, and was restored to his living†.

Robert Buller occurs in 1721, and was buried here 19 Nov. 1737*. To his successors for more than half a century there is no clue; but on the decease of

Gilbert White, the provost and fellows of Oriel college, Oxford, presented

John Yeatman, A.M. who was episcopally inst. 6 Nov. 1793. On his resignation,

George Cooke, D.D. was inst. 4 June 1797. His death introduced

John Woolcombe, A.M. who was inst. 29 Apr. 1800. He resigned, and

Edward Coplestone, B.D. was inst. 12 July 1810. He was appointed to the provostship of his college in 1814, and resigning this living, was succeeded by

Edward Offspring Hoboell, A.M. who was inst. 22 Apr. 1816. He survived only two years, and

James Endell Tyler, A.M. was inst. 20 May 1818. He resigned for the rectory of St. Giles in the Fields, Middlesex, which he still holds, and

Joseph Dornford, A.M. was inst. 29 Sept. 1827. On his cession,

Thomas Mozley, A.M. was inst. 12 Feb. 1833.

THE REGISTER, in the time of Bridges, commenced in 1568; but now the first entry of baptisms is in 1641, of marriages in 1642, and of burials in 1653.



* Non. Con. Mem. (ed. 1803) 3, p. 51.

† Kennet's Reg. p. 771.

* Par. Reg.

THE CHURCH, dedicated to the blessed Virgin, is situated on the south side of the village, and consists of a low embattled tower, with five bells, nave, north and south aisles, and porches, and chancel. On each side of the north belfry window is a trefoil-headed arch. The body of the church is of the Perpendicular style, and the clerestory and most of the other windows, are square-headed. The chancel is of much earlier date, and was probably erected about the close of Henry the Second's reign. The east windows exhibit exteriorly three long lancet-shaped divisions, the central one rising the highest, and each separated by masonry more than equal to the apertures, but connected by a tablet of a peculiar description, which runs along the east, and north and south walls, and serves as a dripstone to the different windows, by being elevated or depressed perpendicularly at right angles to the springing of each arch, and then following its contour. The windows on the north and south sides are single lancets. Another tablet extends along the three walls under the windows, and over the buttresses at the angles of the east end gable, and at its termination along the west end of the north wall is a doorway with recessed arches. The tower is 11 ft. 6 in. long, and 9 ft. 2 in. wide; the nave and aisles 47 ft. 2 in. long, the nave 18 ft. the north aisle 10 ft. 9 in. and the south aisle 12 ft. 11 in. wide; and the chancel 31 ft. 2 in. long, and 16 ft. 6 in. wide. The interior was retained when the outer walls were rebuilt, and is divided from each aisle by three widely-pointed arches, on low massive circular pillars, those on the north side having shallow square-headed capitals, and those on the south side shallow capitals with mouldings conforming to the faces and the chamfered edges of the arches. At the east end of the south aisle is a piscina, and on the south side of the arch leading into the chancel is the entrance to the rood loft. In the south wall of the chancel is a rich double piscina divided into two trefoil-headed openings, resting on three circular pillars, the outer ones with capitals of foliage, and the centre capital of plain mouldings. It is evidently of subsequent erection to the lancet window over it, as its dripstone runs into the opening. The interior effect of the east end is very graceful and beautiful. The three windows with their deep and expanding embrasures, are united by distinct hood mouldings, the two lateral ones springing from corbels, and the central one from two slender circular columns with elegantly foliated capitals.

MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS.

NAVE. Slabs for

1. John Orton, 27 Oct. 1717, æt. 33.
Ruth, wife of John Orton, 31 May 1740, æt. 45.
2. Sarah, wife of John Orton, 13 April 1739, æt. 21.
John Orton, 5 April 1774, æt. 61.
3. Mrs. Ann Stapp, d. of Henry & Anne Feary, w. of Mr. William S. of Stoke Newington, co. Middx. 17 Apr. 1763, æt. 39.
4. Thomas Feary, 1719.
5. Mary, w. of John Feary, dau. of Henry & Elizabeth Hawten, 11 Aug. 1707, æt. 46.
Henry, s. of John & Mary F. 10 Apr. 1747, æt. 66.
6. Thomas Hawten, sen. 29 Oct. 1704, æt. 67.
Anne, w. of Henry Feary, 17 Jan. 1757, æt. 74.
Elizabeth Brocklip, d. of Henry & Ann Feary, 28 Oct. 1801, æt. 81.

CHANCEL.

7. Elizabeth Harding.

- Mary Orton, 12 Jan. 1776, æt. 66.
8. Leticia & Anne, daughters of Rev. Mr. Robert Buller, 1733.
9. Ann, w. of Rev. Mr. Robert Buller, Vicar of this parish, 6 Sept. 1723, æt. 61.
Ann, wid. of Rev. Mr. Robt. Buller, 7 Dec. 1754, æt. 60.
10. The Rev. Mr. Robert Buller, Vicar of this parish 22 years, 17 Nov. 1737, æt. 55.
11. Mr. Robert Buller, s. of Rev. Mr. Robt. B. 4 Jan. 1741, æt. 15.
12. Rebecca, w. of Thomas Fremantle, 16 June 1748, æt. 26.
13. John Fremantle.
14. Here lieth the Body of
Edward Shaw, Esq.
who died Oct. 29,
1830,
Aged 72.

BENEFACTIONS (vide p. 2). **LEESON'S CHARITY.** The sum of £1. 10s. *per ann.* is received under this charity for the poor of Morton Pinkeney.

PLANT'S CHARITY. Anthony Plant, by deed 24 Jan. 1624, charged land in Morton Pinkeney, called Wood Plains and Small Thorn Yards, with 40s. a-year, to be paid to the minister and churchwardens for distribution among the poor of the parish on the feast of the annunciation.

POOR'S LAND. The sum of £250, whereof £110 was a legacy bequeathed by Mrs. Bridget Freemantle in 1779, and the rest arose from ancient benefactions given to find bread for the poor, was laid out in 1782 in the purchase of 12 acres of land in Sulgrave, and vested in the minister and parish officers of Morton in trust. The land is now let for £18 *per ann.* and the rent is received by the minister, who applies a portion of it, equivalent to the interest of £140, in the purchase of bread, which is given away on Sundays in threepenny loaves, a loaf to each poor person, and the residue of the rent is distributed in money.

BENEFACTION FUND. The sum of £36, the amount of some ancient benefactions to the poor of Morton Pinkeney, was expended in the purchase of a messuage, now converted into five small tenements for the occupation of the poor, and the sum of £1. 9s. 6d. yearly is paid as interest on the fund out of the parish rates. The money is added to the sums of 30s. and 40s. received under Leeson's and Plant's charities, and the portion of the rent of the poor's estate not disposed of in bread; and the amount is distributed at Christmas amongst all the poor of the parish, in sums of 5s. and under, according to their necessities.

A **SCHOOL HOUSE**, erected at the expense of more than £300 during the incumbency of Mr. Tyler, ornaments the village green.

EDWARD BAGSHAW, Esq. a political and controversial writer of the 17th century, was born in London, but fixed his residence at Morton Pinkney. He received his education as a commoner of Brasenose college, Oxford, under the tuition of the celebrated puritan divine Robert Bolton, but adopting the law, entered the Middle Temple, of which he was afterwards a bencher, and became an eminent man in his profession. He was appointed Lent reader to that society in 15 Car. (1639-40), when selecting for his subject the statute of 35 Edw. 3, cap. 7, he attacked the political rights of episcopacy, contending "1. that a parliament may be held without bishops, and 2. that bishops may not meddle in civil affairs." Through the influence of archbishop Laud he was displaced and silenced by a mandate from the king, and the following year was elected member for Southwark in the parliamentary interest. Disapproving, however, of the objects soon after avowed by the party, he repaired to Oxford, and sat in the parliament convened there by the king. Here he continued till he was taken prisoner by the parliamentarians, and sent before the house of commons, by whom he was committed to the king's bench, and his Northamptonshire estate fined for his loyalty. He did not long survive the restoration of Charles 2, but died on the 12th of October, 1662, and was buried here on the 15th. He published the life and death of his tutor, Mr. Robert Bolton, with some notes on Mr. B.'s last work of Death, 1633, fol. Two speeches in parliament, 1640 and 1640-1, 4to. Two arguments in parliament on the Canons and Præmunire, 1641, 4to. Short censure of the books of Will. Prynne, entitled the university of Oxford's plea refuted, 1648, 4to. Just vindication of the questioned part of his Reading had in the Middle Temple Hall, 24 Feb. 1639, 4to. 1660. True narrative of the cause of silencing him by the archbishop of Canterbury, 1660, 4to. During his long imprisonment he wrote, A Treatise defending the revenues of the Church in Tithes and Glebe, 1646, 4to. Treatise maintaining the doctrine, liturgy, and discipline of the Church of England. The rights of the Crown of England, as it is established by law, 1660, 8vo. Two of his sons were also authors, Henry Bagshaw, D.D. prebendary of Durham, and Edward Bagshaw, both of whom were born at Broughton in this county. The works of the younger Edward are confounded with those of his father in Watt's Bibliotheca Britannica.

NORTON, or GREENS NORTON.

MANY villages in this, and other counties, were named with reference to one of the four cardinal points of the compass, and this "Nortone" was not improbably so denominated relatively to King's Sutton, which was another portion of the Saxon royal demesne. In later times Norton received the addition of Mareschall and Davy or David, and the prefix of Greens from its successive lords; and the latter adjunct is still retained to distinguish it from Norton near Daventry.

Norton, with Duncote, Carswell, Field Burcote, and part of Potcote, and the chapelries of Whittlebury and Silveston, is a parish of great extent, comprehending nearly 7100 acres. Exclusive of its chapelries, it comprises about 2310 acres. The open fields of Norton and Duncote, containing 1345 acres, were inclosed by act of parliament in 39 Geo. 3 (1799). Carswell, Burcote, and Potcote, are old inclosure. The principal proprietors are, George Henry duke of Grafton, lord of the manor, who has about 1296 acres; the rector, in right of his church, about 262 acres; John Elliott, gent. about 170 acres; and John Sheppard, gent. of Duncote, about 100 acres. The parish—not including Whittlebury and Silveston, which are isolated—is bounded on the north by Blakesley, and by Cold Higham in Towcester hundred; north-east and east, by Ascote in Pateshull in Towcester hundred; south-east and south, by Towcester; south-west, by Braden, and north-west, by Blakesley. The Watling-street, or Chester road, and a brook which runs into the Tove, are partial boundaries to the east and south. The lordship includes almost every variety of soil. About two-thirds is in pasture. The extensive wood surveyed under Norton in domesday, I shall endeavour to prove, in a subsequent page, was synonymous with, or the origin of, WHITTLEBURY FOREST. In 31 Edw. 1 (1303), William le Mareschall obtained the king's licence to fell a certain number of oaks and other trees, to the value of £60, for sale in his wood of Norton Mareschall, within the bounds of Whytelwode forest; the jury certifying that it would be no damage to the king nor to the deer of the forest, which frequently harboured there*. The only wood now remaining in Norton is Kingthorn wood, containing about 28 acres, the property of the duke of Grafton. There are two watermills on the brook running into the Tove; one is called Kingthorn mill. Kingthorn spring, near the wood, is a strong chalybeate.

MANORIAL HISTORY. TERRA REGIS, or ANCIENT DEMESNE*. "Nortone," anterior to, and at the domesday survey, formed a portion of the *Terra Regis*, or ancient demesne. There were seven hides and a virgate of land, with two members, "Blachesleune†," and "Atenestone‡." In demesne were three carucates, with three servants and two maidens; and nineteen villeins and fifteen sokemen and five bordars had twenty-one carucates. There were

* See, 31 Edw. 1, B. 52.

† Vide KINGTHORN, vol. 1, p. 39.

‡ Vide BLAKESLEY, p. 32.

; Vide ADSTON, p. 15.



Designed by R. Pease, Engraver, & Engraved by J. G. Smith.

Engraved by W. & A. Nichol.

QUEEN CATHERINE PARR.

Presented by John, Earl of Glendon Hall.

two mills, worth 15s. yearly. The wood extended four miles in length and three in breadth, and when charged was worth 64s. yearly. The sokemen rendered 30s. yearly. The smiths, probably persons employed on iron-works in the wood, paid £7 in the time of Edward the Confessor; when the whole was rated at £12 yearly, but was now raised to £20^b. The same measurement of seven hides and a virgate was continued in the hydarium of Hen. 2, when it was still in demesne^c; but king Richard, soon after his return from the crusade, granted this manor, with Luton in Bedfordshire, and Wantage in Berkshire, to

Baldwin de Betun, at a fee-farm rent of £4 yearly, and by the service of three fees^d. He was brother of the advocate of Betun, and was usually styled earl of the isle of Wight, till his marriage with Hawise, daughter and heiress of William le Gros earl of Albemarle, and widow of William de Fortibus, in whose right he enjoyed that earldom for life. The grant of the above three manors was confirmed to him, with the advowson, woods, and hundred of Norton, by John, at the commencement of his reign^e. The sheriff of Northamptonshire in 3 Joh. (1201) deducted out of the profits arising from the royal manors £16. 10s. blench for Norton^f, and rendered an account of £4, viz. 50s. in the treasury and 30s. owing from Baldwin de Betun, for the reserved rent of Norton^g. In 5 Joh. (1203), he bestowed these three manors, including the advowson and hundred of Norton, with manors in Kent, Norfolk, and Worcester, on his only child *Alice*, in free marriage with

William, son of William le Marescall, or Marshall, earl of Pembroke^h. Dugdaleⁱ, and most other genealogists, assign this match to the father, the first earl of Pembroke of that name, one of the most distinguished men of the age; but the grant is expressly to William the son of William^j, and in 17 Joh. (1215) William de Fortibus, son of Hawise by her first husband, obtained the lands of his sister *Alice*, wife of William le Marescall the younger^k, who had incurred a forfeiture by joining the confederated barons. They were probably restored on William's return to fealty, and Norton passed, by his gift or that of one of his brothers, to

John le Marescall, nephew of the first earl. "He departed this life in 19 Hen. 3 (1234), leaving *John* his son and heir; who doing his Homage and giving Security for his Relief, had livery of his Lands, viz. of the Mannor of *Haselbergh* in com. *Somerset*, *Heugham* and *Folesham* in com. *Norff.* and *Norton* in com. *Northamp.*" In 21 Hen. 3 (1236), G. Marescall (Gilbert earl of Pembroke) was summoned before the king to warrant to Fulk Fitz Warine the manor of Wantage in Berkshire, and to John Marescall the manors of Folesham in Norfolk, and Norton in Northamptonshire, which the king claimed as escheats of the Flemish lands, on the ground, doubtless, of Baldwin de Betun, the former lord, having been a native of Flanders. The defendants pleaded that when W. earl Marescall, brother of the said earl, was called to warrant the said manors, he inspected the charters, and warranted to them; and that it was against the charter of liberties that this plea should follow the king, because common pleas ought to be determined in a certain place, viz. in the common bench. To which it was answered, that this was not a common plea, but a private one, in which the king was specially concerned, and that a plea which touched the king ought to be determined before him. Therefore the exception of the defendants was overruled, and earl Gilbert came and having inspected, acknowledged the charters, and in the charter to Fulk it was contained that earl Marescall gave him the manor of Wantage^m. In the Testa de Nevill, about 25 Hen. 3 (1240) Philip de Langberg and Robert de Marisco were certified to hold the fourth part of a fee in the manor of Norton, which had been the king's manor, but which John Marescall then held in capiteⁿ. He married Margaret, sister and heiress of Thomas earl of Warwick, in 26 Hen. 3 (1241), and the castle of Warwick was accordingly released to them^o. He is said to have borne the title of earl of Warwick in her right, but died the year following^p, and the king committed to Margaret his widow the manor of Norton till she had an assignment of dower^q; and in 28 Hen. 3 (1243) she agreed in the presence of William archbishop of York, that if she married before next ascension day, all her lands, together with the castle of Warwick, should go to the king, and that she would not marry without the king's licence^r. In Dec. 27 Hen. 3, all the lands of the late John Marescall in the counties of Norfolk, Northampton, and Somerset, were rendered to *William Marescall* his brother^s—not son, as stated by Dugdale and Bridges. "In 49 Hen. 3 (1264) he took part with the rebellious Barons, and died at that time, leaving two sons, *John* and *William*, then under age; who, in 50 Hen. 3, through the mediation of *William de Say* obtained the King's Pardon for their Father's Transgression, and had permission to enjoy his Lands, with what other possessions they had by the gift of *Alice*, their Grandmother, or any other^t." Norton, during the temporary forfeiture, had been granted to Henry, son of Richard king of the Romans^u. In 6 Edw. 1 (1278) the manor, advowson, and hundred were extended^v, and in the same year it was found by inquisition that amongst the new assarts an acre and a half was ploughed by mistake as parcel of the king's manor of Silveston, but which belonged to the manor of Norton, then belonging to John Marescall, but held in dower by Elizabeth, wife of David the son of Griffin^w, from whom, though so temporary a possessor, the manor was sometimes denominated *Norton Davy*.

John Marescall died in 11 Edw. 1 (1283)^x, and was succeeded by his son *William Marescall*, who was summoned to parliament from 2 Edw. 2 to 7 Edw. 2, and died in 8 Edw. 2 (1314)^y. He had, however, previously in 5 Edw. 2 given the king £10 for licence to enfeoff his son *John Marescall*, with Ela his wife, in the manor of Norton^z. In 9 Edw. 2 (1315) John son of William Marescall was returned to be lord of the hundred of Norton, and of Norton, Duncote, Barcote, Carewell, and Whittlebury^{aa}; and died the year following, leaving *Hawise*, aged fifteen years, wife of Robert de Morley, his sister and heiress^{ab}; but this manor, by virtue of the settlement, remained with his widow, who in 1 Edw. 3 (1327) was married to Robert Fitz Pain^{ac}.

^a Domesd. fo. 119 b.

^b Cotton MSS. Vesp. E. xxij. fo. 95 b.

^c Hutton MSS. "Cart. Antiq. EE. 27," & Lib. Nig. p. 197.

^d Ibid.

^e p. 52," & Rot. Cert. 1 Joh. p. 3, n. 1.

^f Rot. Fin. North. 1 Joh.

^g Ibid. 3 Joh.

^h Cert. 3 Joh. m. 19, n. 135.

ⁱ Dugl. Bar. 1 p. 62 & 63.

^j Class. 17 Joh. m. 5.

^k Dugl. Bar. 1. p. 600.

^l Rot. Fin. 19 Hen. 3, m. 6.

^m Placita coram dno

ⁿ Reges apud Wygorn. 21 Hen. 3.

^o Test. Nev. fo. 100.

^p Pat. 36 Hen. 3, p. 2, m. 2.

^q Rot. Fin. 37 Hen. 3, m. 8.

^r Hutton

^s MSS. A. B. "Rot. Orig. & Nov. 27 Hen. 3, p. 2.

^t Placit. 28 Hen. 3, r. 18 in doro.

^u Hutton MSS. A. B. "Orig. 4 Dec. 27 Hen. 3, r. 2.

^v Ecc. 6 Edw. 1, n. 30.

^w Ecc. 6 Edw. 1, n. 55.

^x Dugl. Bar. 1. p. 600.

^y Pat. 50 Hen. 3, m. 13."

^z Ecc. 6 Edw. 2, n. 51, & Orig. 6 Edw. 2, p. 2.

^{aa} Orig. 5 Edw. 2, r. 21, & Inq. ad q. d. 5 Edw. 2, n. 14.

^{ab} Ecc. 11 Edw. 1, n. 37.

^{ac} Cardigan MSS. "Nom. Vill." p. 7.

^{ad} Ecc. 10 Edw. 2, n. 79.

^{ae} Pat. 1 Edw. 3, p. 2, m. 8.

In 3 Edw. 3 (1329), *Henry Power* was summoned by writ of *Quo Warranto* to show by what right he claimed view of frank pledge or court leet, correction of assise of bread and beer, and infangtheof and gallows, and acknowledgment of pleas of all tenures by small writ of right, according to the custom of the manor, in his manor of Norton Davy, and the hundred of Norton Davy, and what to the hundred belonged, rendering for it 54s. yearly, called "*Alla firma*," or white rent; when reciting the settlement by William Mareschall, the death of John Mareschall s. p., and the marriage of Ela his widow with Robert FitzPain, he pleaded a demise from Robert and Ela, for the life of Ela, with remainder to William Morley the heir of the donor, who was a minor in ward to the king, and that he was not able to proceed without the said Robert, Ela, and William, and therefore prayed aid. The king's attorney contended that the manor and hundred were held of the king in capite, and as the defendant acknowledged he had acquired them without the king's licence, they were forfeited to the crown; to which the defendant rejoined, that he had paid a fine of 40s. for his transgression, which was recorded in court; and because William Morley, to whom the reversion belonged, was within age, a day was given to the defendant, and judgment deferred.

In 20 Edw. 3 (1346), Robert and Ela gave 100s. for licence to enfeoff two trustees in the manor of Norton Davy of the inheritance of William Morley, for the life of Ela's, and by inquisition *ad g. d.* it was found that it would not be to the damage of the king's, and a fine was levied to the trustees accordingly.

BETUN, EARL OF ALBEMARLE; MARESCALL, OR MARSHALL, EARL OF PEMBROKE; AND MARESCALL, OR MARSHALL OF HENGHAM, CO. NORF. AND NORTON.

From Dugdale's Barroage, with additions and corrections from public records and other authorities.

Arms. BETUN. Bendy of six Argent and Gules, a chief Or. MARESCALL EARL OF PEMBROKE. Party per pale Or and Vert, a lion rampant Gules, armed and langued Argent. MARESCALL OF HENGHAM. Gules, a bend languy Or.

BETUN.

ROBERT DE BETUN, advocate of Airedale or Ayras, *gent. lands*—ALICIA, to Feversham Abbey, co. Kent, temp. Hen. 2.

GILBERT LE MARESCALL, or MARSHALL, the king's marshal temp. Hen. 1. JOHN LE MARESCALL, the king's marshal temp. Steph. & Hen. 2.

1. ROBERT DE BETUN, <i>advoc.</i> of Ayras, <i>gent. lands</i> —ALICIA, to Feversham Abbey, co. Kent, temp. Hen. 2.	2. WILLIAM DE BETUN, <i>advoc.</i> of Ayras, <i>gent. lands</i> —ALICIA, to Feversham Abbey, co. Kent, temp. Hen. 2.	3. BALDWIN HAWKE, <i>advoc.</i> of Ayras, <i>gent. lands</i> —ALICIA, to Feversham Abbey, co. Kent, temp. Hen. 2.	4. WILLIAM DE BETUN, <i>advoc.</i> of Ayras, <i>gent. lands</i> —ALICIA, to Feversham Abbey, co. Kent, temp. Hen. 2.	5. JOHN DE BETUN, <i>advoc.</i> of Ayras, <i>gent. lands</i> —ALICIA, to Feversham Abbey, co. Kent, temp. Hen. 2.	6. WILLIAM DE BETUN, <i>advoc.</i> of Ayras, <i>gent. lands</i> —ALICIA, to Feversham Abbey, co. Kent, temp. Hen. 2.	7. WILLIAM DE BETUN, <i>advoc.</i> of Ayras, <i>gent. lands</i> —ALICIA, to Feversham Abbey, co. Kent, temp. Hen. 2.	8. WILLIAM DE BETUN, <i>advoc.</i> of Ayras, <i>gent. lands</i> —ALICIA, to Feversham Abbey, co. Kent, temp. Hen. 2.	9. WILLIAM DE BETUN, <i>advoc.</i> of Ayras, <i>gent. lands</i> —ALICIA, to Feversham Abbey, co. Kent, temp. Hen. 2.	10. WILLIAM DE BETUN, <i>advoc.</i> of Ayras, <i>gent. lands</i> —ALICIA, to Feversham Abbey, co. Kent, temp. Hen. 2.
1. ROBERT DE BETUN, <i>advoc.</i> of Ayras, <i>gent. lands</i> —ALICIA, to Feversham Abbey, co. Kent, temp. Hen. 2.	2. WILLIAM DE BETUN, <i>advoc.</i> of Ayras, <i>gent. lands</i> —ALICIA, to Feversham Abbey, co. Kent, temp. Hen. 2.	3. BALDWIN HAWKE, <i>advoc.</i> of Ayras, <i>gent. lands</i> —ALICIA, to Feversham Abbey, co. Kent, temp. Hen. 2.	4. WILLIAM DE BETUN, <i>advoc.</i> of Ayras, <i>gent. lands</i> —ALICIA, to Feversham Abbey, co. Kent, temp. Hen. 2.	5. JOHN DE BETUN, <i>advoc.</i> of Ayras, <i>gent. lands</i> —ALICIA, to Feversham Abbey, co. Kent, temp. Hen. 2.	6. WILLIAM DE BETUN, <i>advoc.</i> of Ayras, <i>gent. lands</i> —ALICIA, to Feversham Abbey, co. Kent, temp. Hen. 2.	7. WILLIAM DE BETUN, <i>advoc.</i> of Ayras, <i>gent. lands</i> —ALICIA, to Feversham Abbey, co. Kent, temp. Hen. 2.	8. WILLIAM DE BETUN, <i>advoc.</i> of Ayras, <i>gent. lands</i> —ALICIA, to Feversham Abbey, co. Kent, temp. Hen. 2.	9. WILLIAM DE BETUN, <i>advoc.</i> of Ayras, <i>gent. lands</i> —ALICIA, to Feversham Abbey, co. Kent, temp. Hen. 2.	10. WILLIAM DE BETUN, <i>advoc.</i> of Ayras, <i>gent. lands</i> —ALICIA, to Feversham Abbey, co. Kent, temp. Hen. 2.

1. ROBERT DE BETUN, <i>advoc.</i> of Ayras, <i>gent. lands</i> —ALICIA, to Feversham Abbey, co. Kent, temp. Hen. 2.	2. WILLIAM DE BETUN, <i>advoc.</i> of Ayras, <i>gent. lands</i> —ALICIA, to Feversham Abbey, co. Kent, temp. Hen. 2.	3. BALDWIN HAWKE, <i>advoc.</i> of Ayras, <i>gent. lands</i> —ALICIA, to Feversham Abbey, co. Kent, temp. Hen. 2.	4. WILLIAM DE BETUN, <i>advoc.</i> of Ayras, <i>gent. lands</i> —ALICIA, to Feversham Abbey, co. Kent, temp. Hen. 2.	5. JOHN DE BETUN, <i>advoc.</i> of Ayras, <i>gent. lands</i> —ALICIA, to Feversham Abbey, co. Kent, temp. Hen. 2.	6. WILLIAM DE BETUN, <i>advoc.</i> of Ayras, <i>gent. lands</i> —ALICIA, to Feversham Abbey, co. Kent, temp. Hen. 2.	7. WILLIAM DE BETUN, <i>advoc.</i> of Ayras, <i>gent. lands</i> —ALICIA, to Feversham Abbey, co. Kent, temp. Hen. 2.	8. WILLIAM DE BETUN, <i>advoc.</i> of Ayras, <i>gent. lands</i> —ALICIA, to Feversham Abbey, co. Kent, temp. Hen. 2.	9. WILLIAM DE BETUN, <i>advoc.</i> of Ayras, <i>gent. lands</i> —ALICIA, to Feversham Abbey, co. Kent, temp. Hen. 2.	10. WILLIAM DE BETUN, <i>advoc.</i> of Ayras, <i>gent. lands</i> —ALICIA, to Feversham Abbey, co. Kent, temp. Hen. 2.
1. ROBERT DE BETUN, <i>advoc.</i> of Ayras, <i>gent. lands</i> —ALICIA, to Feversham Abbey, co. Kent, temp. Hen. 2.	2. WILLIAM DE BETUN, <i>advoc.</i> of Ayras, <i>gent. lands</i> —ALICIA, to Feversham Abbey, co. Kent, temp. Hen. 2.	3. BALDWIN HAWKE, <i>advoc.</i> of Ayras, <i>gent. lands</i> —ALICIA, to Feversham Abbey, co. Kent, temp. Hen. 2.	4. WILLIAM DE BETUN, <i>advoc.</i> of Ayras, <i>gent. lands</i> —ALICIA, to Feversham Abbey, co. Kent, temp. Hen. 2.	5. JOHN DE BETUN, <i>advoc.</i> of Ayras, <i>gent. lands</i> —ALICIA, to Feversham Abbey, co. Kent, temp. Hen. 2.	6. WILLIAM DE BETUN, <i>advoc.</i> of Ayras, <i>gent. lands</i> —ALICIA, to Feversham Abbey, co. Kent, temp. Hen. 2.	7. WILLIAM DE BETUN, <i>advoc.</i> of Ayras, <i>gent. lands</i> —ALICIA, to Feversham Abbey, co. Kent, temp. Hen. 2.	8. WILLIAM DE BETUN, <i>advoc.</i> of Ayras, <i>gent. lands</i> —ALICIA, to Feversham Abbey, co. Kent, temp. Hen. 2.	9. WILLIAM DE BETUN, <i>advoc.</i> of Ayras, <i>gent. lands</i> —ALICIA, to Feversham Abbey, co. Kent, temp. Hen. 2.	10. WILLIAM DE BETUN, <i>advoc.</i> of Ayras, <i>gent. lands</i> —ALICIA, to Feversham Abbey, co. Kent, temp. Hen. 2.

¹ Quo Warr. 3, Edw. 3.

² Orig. 30 Edw. 3, p. 60.

³ Eccl. 30 Edw. 3, p. 5, n. 5.

⁴ Hutton MSS. "Fin. Pasch. 21 Edw. 3."

In 29 Edw. 3 (1355) *Henry Green* and *Thomas* his son gave 20s. for licence to acquire the manor of *Norton Davy*, and in Easter term a fine was levied of the manor, advowson, and hundred to *sir Henry*¹, who died seised in 43 Edw. 3 (1639), leaving the said *Thomas* his son and heir aged twenty-five years². He was the first of six *sir Thomas Greens* in 15 Ric. 2, of free warren in *Norton*, *Sewell*, and *Asby*³. In 28 Hen. 6 (1449), among the sums specially appropriated to the support of the king's household, was 54s. yearly out of the fee farm of *Norton*, from the heir or successor of *William Mareschall*⁴. The last *sir Thomas Green* died in 22 Hen. 7 (1506), leaving his two daughters and coheirresses, in the county. 'During the minority of these Ladies, the Hundred and Manor of *Norton*, with the Advowson of the church, the rangership of *Whittlewood* forest, and the rest of *Sir Thomas Green's* estate⁵, were claimed by the bishop of *Winchester*, *Sir Giles Daubeney*, *Sir Charles Somerset*, and some others; but when the cause should have been tried, the demandants making default, judgment was given in favour of the defendants.' This claim, I apprehend, related only to the wardship of the minors. The eldest married soon after the termination of this suit; for in Jan. 23, Hen. 7 (1507-8), *sir Nicholas Vaux* and *Anne* his wife, daughter and co-heiress of *sir Thomas Green*, and *Matilda Green*, the other daughter and coheirress, had a grant of the profits of their father's lands⁶, and in 24 Hen. 7 (1508) *sir Thomas Parr* had a grant of the marriage of *Matilda* the youngest daughter⁷. The manor, advowson, and hundred of *Norton*, estates in this county, were settled in moieties on the two coheirresses by a recovery suffered in Michaelmas term 23 Hen. 7 (1507), and by fines levied in Hilary term, 3 Hen. 8 (1511-2)⁸. *Sir Nicholas Vaux*, afterwards lord *Vaux of Harrowden*, survived his wife, and died 15 Hen. 8 (1523), leaving *Thomas lord Vaux* his son and heir⁹. Dame *Maupont* Parr survived her husband, and died 24 Hen. 8 (1532), leaving *William Parr*, esq. afterwards Marquis of Northampton, her son and heir¹⁰.

In Jan. 27 Hen. 8 (1535-6) *sir Arthur Darcy*†, reciting that *sir Thomas Vaux lord Harrowden* had by indenture 24 Dec. 27 Hen. 8 (1535) sold to him and his heirs the manors of "Grenes Norton alias Norton Davy," Braden, Cold Higham, Potcote, Grimscoate, Duncote, Wood Burcote, Carswell, Sewell, Blacovesley [Blakesley], and Darlescote, and lands in Lillingston in Buckinghamshire, with all courts, manorial rights, advowsons, &c. thereto belonging, by the name of the manor of *Norton*, and also the custody and keeping of the forest of "Whittlewood," and all woods within the forest belonging to the said lord *Harrowden*, the moiety of which the said lord had lately purchased of *William Parr*, esq. son and heir of *sir Thomas Parr* and dame *Maud* his wife; and reciting also that the said lord *Harrowden* had covenanted that the premises so sold were of the yearly value of 450 marks (£300), beyond reprises, and had great and notable sums of money," to be paid to him by the king before the sealing hereof, and in consideration of the office of governor or captain of Guernsey, with the fees and "gages" to such office pertaining, as granted by letters patent to the said lord *Harrowden* for life at the request of the said *sir Arthur*, and in consideration of the site of the late abbey of *Salley* in Yorkshire, and other lands of great yearly value to be granted to the said *sir Arthur*, conveyed all the above manors and premises to

The King and his heirs⁷. Collins states that *sir Arthur Darcy*, for his services against the Scotch in 25 Hen. 8 (1533) was made "Captain of the Isle of Jersey" [Guernsey], which government he sold by leave of the king two years after to *Thomas lord Vaux of Harrowden*⁸. This sale of office may be presumed therefore to have been part of the contract between *Vaux* and *Darcy*, as well as between the latter and the king.

The manor and hundred of *Norton* were annexed to the honor of *Grafton*, on its formation by act of parliament in 33 Hen. 8⁹, and they remained vested in the crown till 4 Edw. 6 (1550), when they were granted to

William Parr marquis of Northampton and the heirs of his body⁶, and confirmed to him the year following⁴. By this grant *Norton* returned again to the line of *Green*, as he was the only son of *sir Thomas Parr* and *Matilda Green*. His youth was spent in personal attendance on *Henry VIII.* and he bore a conspicuous part in the tournaments which graced the splendid interview between that monarch and *Francis king of France*. In 1538 he was created baron *Parr*, and in 1545, through the influence of his sister queen *Catherine Parr*, the earldom of *Essex*, which had been enjoyed by his wife's father, was conferred on him, though his issue by her had been illegitimated by act of parliament, and she was then living with one *Hunt*, alias *Huntley*, by whom she had several children. In the first of *Edward VI.* he was advanced to the dignity of marquis of *Northampton*; but on the demise of the king, becoming implicated with *Dudley Mary*, attainted of high treason⁵, and sentenced to be beheaded. His life, however, was not only spared, but before the close of the year he was restored in blood, though not to his honours⁴, and was styled simply *sir William Parr*, till queen *Elizabeth*, in the first of her reign, re-created him marquis of *Northampton*. He died without issue in 1570, and was buried in the collegiate church at *Warwick*. His delight was music and poetry, and his exercise, war; though his skill in the field answered not his industry, nor his success his skill. King *Henry* called him "his integrity," and king *Edward* "his honest uncle."

¹ Orig. 29 Edw. 3, r. 25.

² Hatton MSS. "Fin. Pasch. 29 Edw. 3."

³ Esc. 43 Edw. 3, n. 48.

⁴ Cart. 15 to 17 Ric. 2, n. 23.

⁵ Rot. Parl. vol. 2, p. 174.

⁶ Esc. 22 Hen. 7, n. 74.

⁷ Br. 1, p. 240, "Placit. apud West. cor. Justic. de Banco, Term. Mich. anno 23 Hen. 7, Rot. 706."

⁸ Hatton MSS. "Fin. North. Hil. 3 Hen. 7, & Esc. 16 Hen. 8, n. 60."

⁹ Dreds of exchange, temp. Hen. 8, Box D, 62.

¹⁰ Collins's Peerage, [Ed. 1796], vol. 3, p. 30.

¹ Pat. 25 Oct. 24 Hen. 7, p. 2, m. 29.

² Esc. 24 Hen. 8, n. 61.

³ Ibid. "Full's account of Jersey, p. 91, 94."

⁴ Stat. 33 Hen. 8, c. 38.

⁵ Pat. 12 Jan. 4 Edw. 6, p. 7.

⁶ Pat. 24 July, 3 Edw. 6, p. 5.

⁷ Stat. 1 Maria (1533) Sess. 2, c. 16.

⁸ Ibid. Sess. 13, c. 1.

⁹ Vide vol. 1, p. 32.

¹⁰ Vide *Antiquary Magazine*.

PARR, MARQUIS OF NORTHAMPTON.

From Dugdale's Baronage, with additions and corrections from public records and other authorities.

Arms. Argent, two bars Azure, a chief engrailed Sable.

Sir WILLIAM PARR, of Kendal, co. Westmoreland, *jure uxoris* ELIZABETH, dau. of sir John Roos, by Catherine, dau. of sir Thomas Latham, and grand-daughter and h. of sir Thomas Latham, Baron 1356, dead 20 Ric. 2 (1390).
6 Hen. 4. s. 37.

JOHN PARR, of Kendal, co. Westm. et. 22, Esc. 6 Hen. 4. ob. 9 Hen. 4 (1407), Esc. 9 Hen. 4. n. 38.

Sir THOMAS PARR, of Kendal, co. Westm. et. 2, Esc. 9 Hen. 4. attained 38 Hen. 6 (1459), ob. 4 Ed. 4 (1464), Esc. 4 Ed. 4. n. 3.

1. h. THOMAS, 2. w. JOAN, 3. Sir WILLIAM, 4. h. ELIZA, 5. h. NICHOLAS, 6. w. ANNE, eldest dau. of 2. Sir JOHN AGNES, dau. of 3. h. Sir WALTER
MAN COLT, dau. of ... LIAM PARR, TRUSTEE, of Kendal, Vaux, baron Vaux, ob. of sir Thomas PARR, ob. of Thomas Cuthill, DEVEREUX, of
of Ruydon, co. Suff. ob. co. Westm. 13 Edw. 4. K.G. et. 13 (1473), Esc. 4 Ed. 4. 13 Edw. 4. dead 4 Hen. 4. n. 28, & 15 (1512).
Colt of Ruydon, co. Essex.

1. Sir THOMAS (MATILDA, of PARR, of Kendal, co. Westm. and of Greens Norton, *jure uxoris* coh. of George baron Fitzhugh, et. 13, Esc. 22 Hen. 7, mar. 24 Hen. 7 (1509). North-Hen. 9, ob. 12 Nov. 10, Hen. 8 (1519). Esc. 10 Hen. 8. n. 42, bur. in Blackfriars ch. London.

2. Sir WILLIAM (MARY, PARR, of Horton, *jure uxoris* coh. North. 9. 13 Hen. 8. BARON PARR, of Horton, Pat. 23 Dec. 35 oc. mar. 21 Hen. 7 (1505-6). lord chamberlain to Queen Catherine Parr, s. p. n. 10 to Sept. 38 Hen. 8 (1546). bur. at Horton.

3. JOHN (CONSTANCE, PARR, esp. oc. Thomas Chayne, mar. and coh. Sept. 15 (1499). Vere of Adding Sept. 20, Hen. 7, dead s. p. (1504). 20 Hen. bur. at 7 (1505). Irlingham-borough.

ANNE, living 5 Hen. 8 (1514); 2 w. of sir Thomas Chayne, or Cheney, of Irlingham-borough and Thendford, ob. 13 Jan. 5 Hen. 8 (1513-4).

MARGARET, ob. ... 1. HENRY STYMOUR, bar. of Derwentwater, co. Cumberland, esp. ob. 15 Nov. 11, Hen. 7 (1495).

RADCLIFFE, EARL OF DERWENTWATER, co. Cumb. forfeited 16.

1. w. ANNE, Sir WILLIAM PARR, et. 6, 2. w. ELIZABETH, dau. of Wolfrangeus Suseburgh, of Sweden, ob. April 1535; mar. 2. h. Sir Thomas Gorges, of Longford Castle, co. 30 Mar. 1610.

1. ANNE, William HERBERT, 1st earl of Pembroke, K.G. ob. 17 Mar. bur. in St. Paul's ch. 18 April 1524.

1. h. EDWARD BOYNTON, 2d earl of Devon, ob. 24 Hen. 8 (1542).

1. h. EDWARD BOYNTON, 2d earl of Devon, ob. 24 Hen. 8 (1542).

1. h. EDWARD BOYNTON, 2d earl of Devon, ob. 24 Hen. 8 (1542).

HERBERT, EARL OF PEMBROKE.

By the death of the marquis of Northampton without issue, all his estates included in the grant of Norton reverted to the crown. In 6 Jac. (1608-9) Nicholas Dryden, gent. died seized of lands in Norton held of the king as of his manor of Norton^a.

Norton, with its dependant manors and lands in Potcote, Carswell, Dumcote, and other places, was included in the extensive grant (already noticed under SEWELL^b, and which will be more fully detailed under GRAFTON REGIS) made in 17 Car. 2 (1665) to Denzil Holles and others, in trust for queen Catherine for her life; and the reversion of which was granted in 25 Car. 2 (1673) to Henry (Bennet) earl of Arlington for life, remainder "in consideration of natural love and affection," to the king's natural sons, Henry earl of Exeter (afterwards duke of Grafton), Charles earl of Southampton (afterwards duke of Cleveland and Southampton), and lord George Fitzroy, alias lord George Palmer (afterwards duke of Northumberland), successively in tail male^c. On the decease of the dowager queen Catherine in 1705, Charles 2nd duke of Grafton came into possession, and the estates so settled are now (1834) vested in his lineal successor Geoffrey-Henry 4th duke of Grafton.

LUFFIELD PRIORY LANDS. William Mareschal, son of William Mareschal earl of Pembroke, gave eighty acres of land in a certain angle of Norton wood to his servant William de Clarvallibus^d, who granted them, describing their locality to extend between the assarts which sir Geoffrey Fitz Peter made of his wife's lands and the assarts of the lands of earl Baldwin (de Betun), and abutting on the land of Geoffrey de Paveley, to the prior and convent of Luffield^e. John Mareschal confirmed to the monks the donation which William de Clarvallibus made of the assarted land which he held of him in the "ballia" of Norton^f, and by fine in 31 Hen. 8 (1547) William Mareschal released to prior William and the convent of Luffield the service due to him of a pair of gold spurs yearly, and suit at his court every three weeks; in return for which they released to him 30s. yearly rent, which they had of the gift of the predecessors of the present king out of the fee-farm of Norton, and which was paid to the convent by the said William and his ancestors^g.

One of the courts for the Honor of Grafton is held at Norton, for the manors of Greens Norton, Whittlebury, Paulerspury Church End and Heathencote, Cold Higham and Grimscote, and Pateshull with its hamlets.

NORTON PARK, with the herbage and pannage, and part of the demesne lands of the manor, were granted in 25 Eliz. (1583) for a term of years to William Hickling, esq.^h whose father was seated here, probably as a tenant at will,

^a Esc. 7 Jac. p. 1, n. 119.

^b Ibid. fo. 46 b.

^c Ibid. fo. 35.

^d VOL. II.

^e Pat. 30 Jun. 17 Car. 2, p. 9, n. 1.

^f Ibid. fo. 208 b. & Hatton MSS. "Fin. 31 Hen. 8."

^g Pat. 21 Jan. 25 Car. 2, p. 9, n. 8.

^h Pat. 11 Maii, 25 Eliz. p. 1.

ⁱ Luffield Cartulary, fo. 47.

His pedigree was entered at the heraldic visitation of 1618, though he had died in 1606 without male issue, leaving only a daughter, Christian, who married Thomas Elmes, esq. of LILFORD. These lands were successively demised on lease to the families of Elmes, and Ives of BRADDEN, till near the middle of the last century. The park is now distributed into small inclosures.

THE MANOR HOUSE stood north-west of the church, but not a relic now remains.

THE VILLAGE stands in a low situation about two miles from Towcester. In the time of Bridges there were 'computed to be about three hundred families in Greens Norton and the hamlets belonging to it'. By the census of 1801 Greens Norton with its hamlets, exclusive of Whittlebury and Silveston, which were separately returned, contained 184 houses and 615 inhabitants; by that of 1811, 140 houses and 670 inhabitants; by that of 1821, 147 houses and 740 inhabitants; and by that of 1831, 146 houses and 771 inhabitants. The annual quota of land-tax is £168. 3s. 6d. at 4s. in the £. The estimated value of real property, as assessed to the property-tax of 10 per cent. for the year ending April 1815, amounted to £3222. The poor rates for the year ending Easter 1832, raised £916. 8s. 9d. at 7s. in the £. The wake follows the feast of St. Bartholomew.

THE ADVOWSON was specifically named in the confirmatory grant of the manor by king John to Baldwin de Betun^a earl of Albemarle. It was included as parcel of the fee of Chokes in a grant to sir John Molins in 20 Edw. 3 (1346)^b. King John bestowed the lands and possessions of the advocate of Betun, in which was comprised the fee of Chokes, on Baldwin de Betun earl of Albemarle, and hence this advowson, though appurtenant to the manor, which was ancient demesne, became not improbably reputed to be attached to that honor. On discovery of the erroneous tenure on which it was founded, this grant appears to have been revoked, and in 29 Edw. 3 (1355) the advowson passed with the manor to sir Henry Green^c. From this period they continued united till the settlement of the manor by king Charles II. when the advowson was reserved, and still remains vested in the crown.

THE RECTORY is in the deanry of Brackley. In the taxations of 1254 (38 Hen. 3)^d, and of 1291 (20 Edw. 1)^e, it was rated at 30 marks (£20) *per ann.* and in the ecclesiastical survey of 1535 (26 Hen. 8) at £38. 10s. 7d. *per ann.* deducting 10s. 7d. for synodals and procurations to the archdeacon of Northampton^f. The parliamentary commissioners in 1655 certified it to be a sequestered parsonage in the patronage of his highness the Protector; that Mr. Samuel Moore supplied the cure, really worth £80 yearly; and that Whittlebury and Silveston were two chapels which were formerly united to the said church of Norton, and worth £80 yearly^g.

The commissioners for inclosing Norton and Duncote allotted 261a. 3r. 38p. of land in Norton, in lieu of the glebe lands and of the tithes of the open fields and of the old inclosures and homesteads exonerated under the act; and the rector receives a modus of £3 yearly for the duke of Grafton's old inclosures in Norton, Carswell, Field Burcote, and Potcote. The commissioners for inclosing Whittlebury allotted to the hon. and rev. Henry Beauchamp, then rector of "Greens Norton with Whittlebury and Silston otherwise Silverstone otherwise Silveston Burnham annexed," 115a. 0r. 30p. of land in fee, in lieu of the glebe lands and of the tithes of the open fields and of such of the old inclosures and homesteads as were exonerated under the act, and 53a. 1r. 31p. of land, in lieu of his open field freehold estate, charging the whole with an annual corn rent of 332 bushels 6 gallons 6 pints of good wheat, at the average price of good marketable wheat in the county of Northampton, for the twenty-one years next preceding the 1st of January 1796, which they deemed to be equivalent to the annual value of the said glebe and tithes; and it was enacted that as well the owner of the lands, as the rector for the time being, should every twenty-one years apply to the justices at the quarter sessions of the county to appoint two persons, together with a third person to be chosen by such two persons, arbitrators or referees to ascertain from the London Gazette the average price of wheat for the twenty-one years then last past, and to report at the next quarter sessions, and if the average was found more or less than during the preceding term, the said yearly rent to be increased or diminished in proportion, and the exact amount of increase or diminution to be declared by an order of the court of quarter sessions, and so from time to time at the end of every twenty-one years for ever. The rector has also a modus of £3 yearly for the tithes of about 375a. of old inclosures not exonerated under the act.

The commissioners for disafforesting Hasleborough walk in Whittlewood forest and inclosing Silveston, awarded to the rector of Norton 4a. 2r. 36p. of land in lieu of the glebe in Silveston; and an annual corn rent of 492 bushels, 2 pecks, and 11 pints of wheat, in lieu of the tithes of 1110a. 3r. 17p. of land in Silveston, directing that at the expiration of seven years, two persons not interested therein, should be chosen, one by the rector and the other by the proprietors of the lands, to be arbitrators to ascertain by the Northampton Mercury, so long as it should publish the price of wheat, and afterwards by the London Gazette, the average price of a Winchester bushel of good marketable wheat at Northampton, "where such wheat shall be openly and publicly sold during the whole market, and not at particular times thereof, or on particular contracts only, for the term of seven years next preceding, and if it should appear from their report that the average price was more or less than the preceding term, by 3d. or upwards per bushel, the yearly rent to be increased or diminished in proportion to such variation; and so from time to time every seven years for ever." A further yearly corn rent of 90 bushels, 3 pecks, and 11 pints, subject to the above regulations, in lieu of the tithes of that portion of Hasleborough walk which was within the "liberties or precincts" of Silveston, was awarded to the rector of Norton by the commissioners. About 120 acres in Silveston, including the Luffield lands, remain unexonerated, and pay nothing to the rector. The rectory-house stands some distance north of the church, and has been considerably improved by the present incumbent.

^a Br. 1, p. 238.

^b Cart. 1 Joh. p. 3, n. 1.

^c Cart. 20 Edw. 3, n. 17 to 20.

^d Dugd. Bar. 1, p. 63.

^e Cart. 5 Joh.

^f Hutton

MSS. "Fin. 20 Edw. 3."

^g Cotton MSS. Nero D.2. fo. 179.

^h Tax. Eccl. p. 38.

ⁱ Augm. Off.

^j Cart. 5 Joh.

^k Lambeth MSS. vol. 20.

Rectors. *Philip de St. David*, clerk, by John Mareschal, 27 Jan. 1322.

John de Bekeford, deacon, by Mast. Philip de St. David, with the consent of John Mareschal, 1239.

Richard de Hengham, by John de Britany, earl of Richmond, and Reginald Grey.

Richard de Roscell, subdeacon, by the same, 26 Sept. 1269. He was also rector of Winnick and Clendon.

Ralph de Plumpton, clerk, by recovery of the right of presentation against the king, who claimed by reason of William son of John Mareschal being within age and in his wardship, 20 Jan. 1297. He was rector of Maidford from 1289 to 1297.

Nicholas de Pulley, priest, to the church of Norton Dary, near Towcester, with the chapel of Wyttebury, by sir Robert Fitz Payn, 23 June, 1322.

William de Egan.

Thomas de Usefete, 8 Dec. 1330. He exchanged this rectory for the demery of the free chapel of St. Martin's le Grand, in London, with

John de Hesclarton, priest, presented by sir Robert Fitz Payn, 1st Oct. 1345.

Mast. *James de Andele*, clerk, 21 July 1348.

John de Baddely, 27 Aug. 1350.

Richard Bollesover, priest, by sir Thomas Greene, 8 Jun. 1370. He has been previously noticed under Boughton.

John Cok, by sir Thomas Greene, 10 Oct. 1395.

Thomas Cook, priest, 17 Jan. 1433.

Thomas Boughton, by Thomas Billinge, Thomas Throgmorton, and John Rouse.

Nicholas Russell, priest, by the same, Feb. 1471.

Sir William Fleshwere, priest, by Richard Middleton, esq. and Matilda his wife, 13 Oct. 1479.

Mast. *Edward Lane*, priest, by sir Nicholas Vaux, husband of Anne, daughter and coheir of sir Thomas Greene and Thomas Parr, esq. husband of Matilda, the other daughter and coheir of sir Thomas Greene, deceased, 10th April 1508. He was rector of Warkton from 1498 to 1510, and of Braybrook 1504 to 1508.

Richard Mallory, by sir Nicholas Vaux and lady Anne his wife, 26 Aug. 1510.

Mast. *Edmund Gifford*, 20 Jan. 1512, already noticed under Boughton.

Mast. *Ralph Boulam*, or *Bollam*, S. T. P. by Thomas Vaux, lord of Harowden, 27 May 1528. He was vicar of St. John's, Peterborough, from 1522 to 1542.

Geoffrey or Griffin Jones, was presented by William marquis of Northampton, and inst. 28 Mar. 1553, on the death of the last incumbent. He was deprived within a few months, and

John Bayard was inst. 7 May 1554, on the presentation of the queen.

William Mouse, or *Mowse*, LL.D. was presented by sir William Parr, late marquis of Northampton, and inst. 12 Dec. 1558. He had been master of Trinity hall, Cambridge, but was ejected on the accession of queen Mary, for having been a protestant, and bishop Gardiner was substituted, on whose decease Mowse, having intermediately conformed to popery, was re-appointed, and deprived by queen Elizabeth, on suspicion of papacy, about the same time that he obtained this living. His tergiversation ceased with the stability of the established religion, and he was preferred to the prebend of Botevant, in the

cathedral of York. He survived till 1588, but was previously succeeded here by

John Pratt, who was inst. 18 Jan. 1566-7, on the presentation of William marquis of Northampton. He was archdeacon of St. David's.

Richard Judson was presented by the queen, and inst. 3 Apr. 1584. All the succeeding incumbents were instituted on presentations by the crown.

Edward Saunders occurs in 1599, and was buried here 8 April 1631*.

John Wilson, A.M. was inst. 26 May 1631, and buried here 8 Oct. 1636*.

Robert Skinner, bishop of Bristol, was inst. 17 Nov. following. A brief memoir of this prelate, who was successively translated to the sees of Oxford and Worcester, will be found under PRISFORD*. By order of the committee of sequestration 22 July 1643, the bishop was sequestered from this rectory "for his malignity against the parliament," to the use of

Daniel Rogers, A.M. "a godly and orthodox divine," who vacated it, and it was ordered by the committee, 16 July 1645, that the rectory should stand sequestered to the use of

Richard Prideaux, A.M. another "godly and orthodox divine."*

James Wright, accounted for the first fruits 23 Oct. 1648*.

Samuel Moore, occurs in 1655, and was buried here under the designation of "Minister of God's word," 23 May 1660*. On the restoration of Charles II. the bishop was reinstated in this benefice, as will appear from proceedings against Mr. Fido, relative to the living or chapelry of Whitlebury, but must have resigned immediately after, as

William Ives was admitted by the archbishop of Canterbury, the see of Peterborough being vacant, to the rectory of "Norton Davy, alias Greens Norton cum Whitlebury," 27 Sept. 1660*.

John Butler was inst. 30 Sept. 1666, and again 11 Apr. 1667. Whether the vacancy was occasioned by death or resignation is not stated, nor is the institution of his successor in the episcopal register at Peterborough, but he was doubtless succeeded by his predecessor

William Ives, A.M. who was also rector of Bradden, and on his monument there is described as rector of Bradden and Greens Norton. He was buried at Bradden 27 Jan. 1696-7, and

John Petter, of St. John's coll. Camb. D.D. was inst. 23 Mar. following. He was buried here 28 Apr. 1700*, and *Aaron Wood* was inst. 27 June following. On his decease,

John Denne, of Ben'et or Corpus Christi coll. Camb. A.M. 1716, D.D. 1728, was inst. 6 June 1721. This able divine and learned antiquary was born at Littlebourn in Kent, in May 1693. He held successively the livings of St. Benedict Cambridge, Greens Norton, St. Leonard's Shoreditch, St. Margaret's Rochester, and Lambeth in Surrey; and was archdeacon of Rochester, with a prebend annexed, from 1728 till his death in 1767. He was preacher of the Boyle lectures 1725 to 1728, and published fifteen single sermons. He arranged the muniments of the cathedral of Rochester, and made extensive collections for its history; but the duties of his station, to the discharge of which he always paid the most assiduous attention, and a multipli-

* Par. Reg. * Calamy & Kennett's Register.

* Vide vol. 1, p. 63.

* Br. 1, p. 241. * MS. Duc. de Chandos.

* Kennett's Register, p. 263.

city of other engagements, prevented the publication. His cession introduced

Thomas Jackson, A.B. who was inst. 28 June 1726. He was buried here 31 Mar. 1749^b, and

Thomas Price, of Trinity hall, Camb. LL.B. vicar of Buckingham, was inst. 6 July following. He retained both benefices, and was buried here 2 Sept. 1772^b. His successor

The hon. Henry Beauclerk, of Christ ch. coll. Oxf. A.M. was inst. 21 Jan. 1773. He was only son of lord

Henry Beauclerk, fourth son of Charles first duke of St. Albans. He resided on his own estate at Whittlebury, and was father of John Beauclerk, esq. some time deputy recorder, and now recorder of Northampton. From 1781 he held the rectory of Leckhampted in Buckinghamshire, with Norton, and dying 8 Nov. 1817, was succeeded here by

Thomas Fawcett, of Christ Ch. coll. Oxf. A.M. who was inst. 5 Jan. 1818. He held the rectory of Braden from 1797 to 1818, and of Aynho from 1808 to 1830.

THE REGISTERS commence in 1565.

COMMUNION PLATE. The rev. Mr. John Denne presented a silver plate with this inscription, "Deo et sacris humillimè pie mentis devotione D.D.Dq. Joannes Denne, A.M. nuper admodum pchialis Ecclesiæ de Greens Norton, Rector, 1724."

THE CHURCH, dedicated to St. Bartholomew, or according to some authorities to St. Lawrence, stands on rising ground at the east end of the village, and consists of a tower containing five bells, and surmounted by a lofty plain spire, nave, north and south aisles, south porch, and chancel. There are three uniform windows in each aisle of the fourteenth century, having three lights, and two quatrefoils below three elongated trefoils in the arch. The chancel is of an earlier period, and has on the south side two corresponding windows, double lancet conjoined by separate dripstones, and in the interior a slender circular shaft runs up the centre between the two lights. The east window is more modern, and despoiled of its tracery. The north windows are blocked up. The tower is 13 ft. 7 in. long by 10 ft. 2 in. wide; the nave and aisles, as at present thrown open, are 60 ft. 9 in. long, the north aisle, 14 ft. 5 in. the nave 18 ft. 6 in. and the south aisle 14 ft. 8 in. wide; and the chancel 30 ft. 6 in. long by 19 ft. 4 in. wide. The interior was neatly paved and pewed in 1826. There is a west gallery with returns, and in the centre a handsome barrel organ, which cost 100 guineas, presented by Mr. John Elliott. At the west end of the nave, mounted on a modern base, is the basin of a font of the twelfth century, circular, bordered with a hatched moulding, and in beaded lozenge compartments, each interstice filled with a flower. The nave was divided from each aisle by two very lofty pointed arches on lofty octangular pillars with capitals of plain mouldings, and from the chancel by a similar arch; but the nave now includes, on each side eastward, an arch of less altitude, formerly opening into chapels at the east end of the aisles, which, as well as the chancel, were inclosed by a handsome screen stretching across the edifice from north to south, prior to the new pews being erected. A piscina and two brackets remain at the east end of the north aisle, and a piscina and three brackets at the east end of the south aisle. The present chancel is a mere continuation of the nave, without any division or distinction.

MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS.

1. NAVE. On a brass plate, *Arms*. Per chevron (S. & Ar.) three elephants' heads erased Counterchanged, *Saunders*. Crest: On a wreath, an elephant's head erased per chevron (Ar. & S.)

HERE lieth the body of William Saunders, late of this parish, Gentleman; who departed this life January the ninth, Anno Dom. MDCXCVIII, and who was the son of Thomas Saunders, late of this parish, Physician, which said Thomas also was buried near this place, and was the son of Edward Saunders, heretofore Rector of this parish with its members, and lieth buried near the high Altar of this church. Likewise under this stone lieth the body of Joseph Saunders, late of Towcester, in the County of Northampton, Gentleman and Attorney at Law, being the son of the above-named William Saunders, and also ye last of the said family, who, after many years sickness and pains, here departed this life April the twenty-fourth, Anno Dom. MDCCIV Aged XXXIII.

et in spe Resurrectionis quiescit.

NEAR to this place also lieth the body of Mary the late Mother of ye said Joseph Saunders, who was buried August MDCLXXXIV.

SOUTH AISLE. On slabs.

2. Edward Hoare, gent.

Mrs. Sarah Hoare, his wife.

3. Round the verge of an old slab, in Lombardic characters, nearly illegible,

... gist icy dieu de sa alme ...

GREEN MONUMENTS. The space originally included in the chancel and lateral chapels could once boast a series of altar tombs commemorative of four successive generations of the Greens in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries; but the guardians of the church have had so little veneration for the memorials of their former lords, that not one has been suffered to remain! Fortunately representations of them have been preserved to posterity in a work of extreme rarity—Halstead's Genealogies, privately printed in 1685 for the earl of Peterborough—and it is deemed desirable to re-engrave them, in order to perpetuate them more locally, and to illustrate the following description and appropriation of them. They were also extant in the time of Bridges, and are recorded by him, though imperfectly. The work of devastation must therefore have been comparatively recent; but the finishing stroke was given when the church was re-pewed and "beautified" in 1826, and occasioned a correspondence in the Gentleman's Magazine, in which Mr. Gilbert Flesher, of Towcester, remonstrated against, and the rev. R. B. Exton, the resident clergyman, defended the proceedings of the parochial authorities. Such wanton and reckless disregard of the most appropriate and interesting embellishments of a sacred edifice, cannot be too strongly deprecated.

1. The first monument in chronological order stood in the centre; and by the arms on the side of the tomb, as

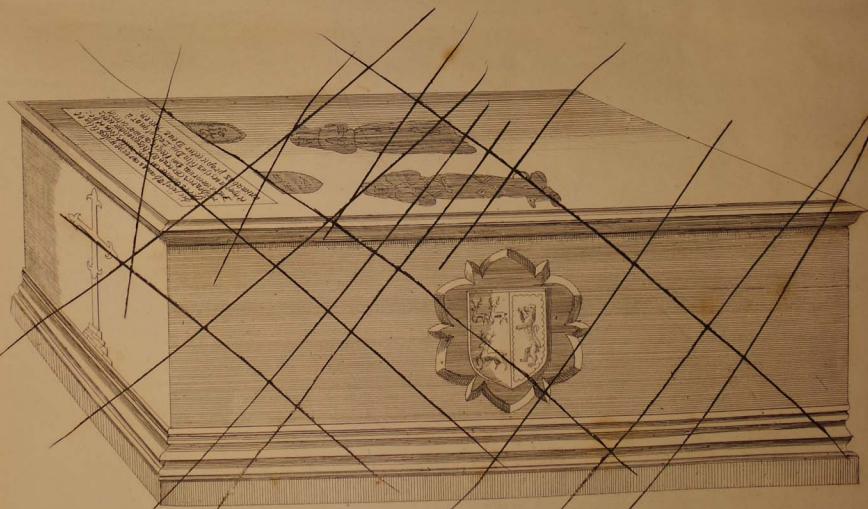
^b Par. Reg.

^c Br. 1, p. 242 & 243.

*In Greens Norton Church
The Tombe of S^r Henry Greene
L^d Chiefe Justice of England*



In Greens Norton Church.



*GREEN MONUMENT
Copied from William's Gravestone*

delineated in Halstead, may be confidently assigned to sir Thomas Green, who died in 1391, and married *MABLETHORP**. On it were two fine recumbent effigies of alabaster, presenting well-executed specimens of the costume of that period. The knight is in a rich suit of plate armour, exposing the head, and hands, which are elevated. His hair is short, and cropped round. He has a mail gorget. The upper edges of the pouldrons are turned up, and escalloped at the bottom, extending nearly half way down the brassarts. To the lowest plate of the tassettes are appended fluted cuissarts; ornamented genouailes divide the cuisses from the greaves, and he has broad-toed sollerets and rowelled spurs. At his left side is a long sword suspended from a transverse belt. Under his head is his helmet and crest, a buck's head; and at his feet, a lion.

The lower half of this figure is broken up and dispersed, and the upper half was in 1826 placed upright within the arch in the north aisle, behind and looking down upon his lady, who was removed at the same time, and lies extended under the arch. She has what is termed the horned or mitre head-dress, but unusually low and flat, turned up round the forehead, and the folds falling behind on the cushion upon which her head reposes, and which is sustained by an angel. Her vest meets a collar of S.S. at the neck, is fitted to the bust, and descends from the waist in rectilinear folds; the sleeves are tight to the wrist, with cuffs turned back, and the hands elevated in prayer. An open mantle reaches to the feet, and is fastened across the breast with a plain cordon. The side and end of the tomb, as represented in the engraving, have long, narrow, trefoil-headed compartments, alternately charged with shields, on which the three following coats are thrice repeated. I. (Az.) three bucks trippant (Or), *Green*. II. A bend between six mullets, on a chief a lion passant gardant, *qu.*? a second coat of *Mablethorp*. III. (G.) a chevron between three cross-crosslets, and in chief a lion passant gardant (O), *Mablethorp*. Portions of the sides of the tomb are fixed at the back and end of the arch in the north aisle; the shields are perfect, but the blazonry is wholly obliterated. There does not appear to have been any inscription on this tomb; but Bridges has erroneously connected with it the one next described.

II. Under the eastern arch, on the north side of the nave, or ancient chancel, stood an altar tomb for sir Thomas Green, who died in 1417, and Mary Talbot his wife*. On the covering slab of grey marble were two small brass figures about 15 in. long. The knight is gone; but the lady is still remaining. Over their heads were two shields, and above was inscribed on a brass plate,

hic jacet Thomas Grene, miles, filius et heres Thome Grene, militis, filii et heredis Ricardi Grene, militis, quondam unius Justiciarii curie Dni Regis Edwardi tertii, et Maria ux. eius, filia Dni Talbot, quorundam animabus propicietur Deus. Amen.

On the side of the tomb, within the central compartment, was a shield bearing *Green* impaling (G) a lion rampant within a border enrailed (G) *Talbot*. In the centre of the end of the tomb was a cross flory elevated on three steps. The slab is now laid down under the arch; and the side and end of the tomb are inserted in the floor, under the north wall of the chancel.

III. At the east end of the north aisle, under a very depressed arch, with a blank shield in each spandril, was a plain unornamented altar tomb for sir Thomas Green, who died in 1457, and Philippa Ferrars his wife*. On the

slab were two brass figures, with two smaller ones beneath, labels over their heads, a shield at each corner, and an inscription round the verge. This memorial has "left not a wreck behind," and its place is partly occupied, as already stated, by the mutilated fragments of another tomb.

IV. Collateral to the first, stood an elegant altar-tomb for sir Thomas Green, who died in 1462, and Matilda Throckmorton his wife*. On the slab are two fine brass figures about three feet and a half long. The knight is in a plain, but beautiful suit of plate armour. He is bare-headed; his hair short. He has a mail hallicer, or gorget; pass guards, but no pouldrons; scallop-shaped elbow gussets; and hands elevated and without gauntlets. Below the lowest plate of the tassettes is seen a small portion of chain mail, and cuissarts are attached to the tassettes by a buckle and straps on each side. The genouailes are pointed at the knees, and overlapped within side. There is mail at the bend of the insteps, to give flexibility of motion; the sollerets are jointed, and sharp-pointed, and the spurs long-necked and rowelled. At his left side is a long sword from a transverse belt, and immediately in front a shorter sword depending between his legs. His head reposes on his tilting helmet and crest; and his feet rest on a couched talbot.

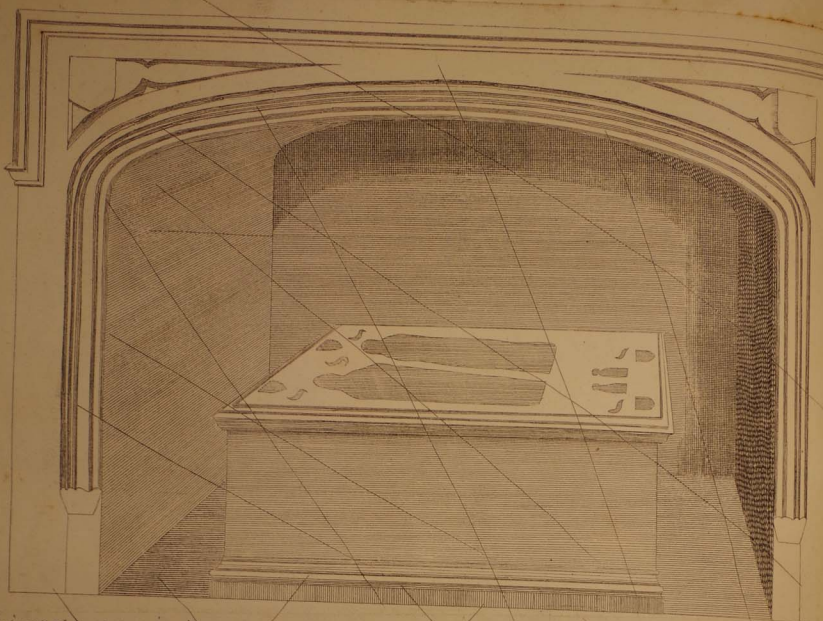
The lady has a veiled headdress, which falls gracefully on her shoulders; and underneath it, a singular wimple passes smoothly over each cheek, and is confined in small plaits under the chin. Her vest has tight sleeves to the wrist, conforms to the shape, and terminates in a flowing train, on which is seated a small talbot with a bell collar. She has a long open mantle with loose sleeves, and fastened across the breast with a triangular cord, the ends pendant to the waist and tasselled. Beneath the figures were four children labelled Thomas, . . . , John, and Elizabeth, all of whom have disappeared except the last. At each corner of the slab was a shield, but only two are remaining, 1. *Green* quartering *Mablethorp*, and 2. *Green* impaling Vairé (O. & G.) *Ferrars*. Round the ledge is inscribed,

Hic jacet Thomas Grene, miles, Dni de Norton, et Matild' ux' ei', quibero Thomas fuit fil' g' heres Thome Grene, militis, Dni de cadm, g' Philippe ux'is eius filie Roberti Dni Ferrars de Chartley g' Elizabeth uxoris eius, filie Thome Dni de Spencer, qui quid'm Thomas Grene pater prefati Thome Grene fuit filius g' heres Thome Grene, militis, Dni de Norton p'ced'ca g' Marie ux' eius, filie Dni Talbot g' Richard uxoris eius, filie g' heredis Joh'is Dni Strange de Buzemere, qui quid'm prefatus Thomas filius p'ced'ca Thome g' Philippe abutit se die Mens' Septembris Anno Dni Millesimo CCCXIII. Et p'fata Matild' una filiarum Joh'is Throckmorton, Armigeri, quondam Subthesaurarii Regi, obiit . . . die Mens' . . . Anno Dni Millesimo CCCCL . . . quare et Tabus p'picietur Deus. Amen.

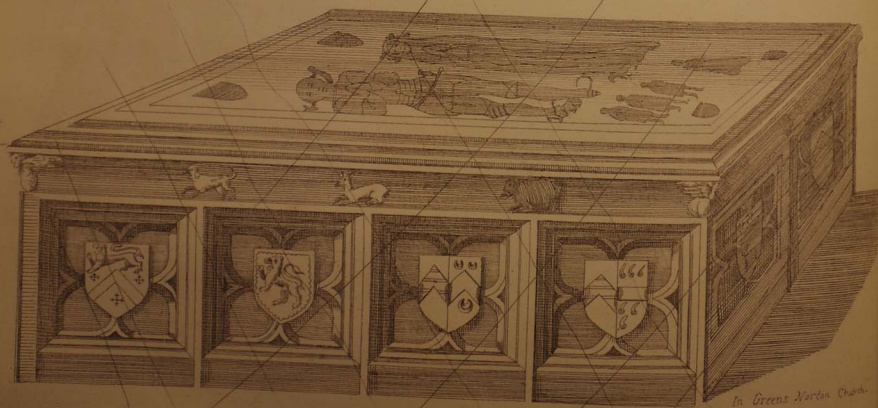
The side and end of the tomb, as represented in the engraving, are divided into quatrefoil compartments, each having a shield in the centre. I. *Mablethorp*. II. *Talbot*. III. (G.) on a chevron (Ar.) three bars gemels (S), *Throckmorton*, impaling (S.) a chevron (Ar.) between three crescents (O.), *Spine*. IV. *Throckmorton*, impaling (G.) a fess (Ar.) between six guttes (O) *Wike* or *Wyke*. V. *Green*. VI. *Throckmorton*. The hollow cornice under the ledge is ornamented with talbots, stags, and muzzled bears. The tomb is wholly destroyed, but the slab occupies its site on the floor.

CHANCEL. V. On the north wall is a small marble tablet surmounted by arms. 1 & 6. Az. three bars, in chief three lions' heads erased (O.), *Hickling*. 2. G. a fess vairy between three mullets. . . . 3. Az. a chevron between three fishes hauriant Ar. . . . 4. S. three cornish

* Vide *BOTCHERS*, vol. I, p. 32.



hie jacet Thomas Greene miles Dñs de Morton et Watfild az' ejus Qui dñe Thomas fuit filius et heres Thome Greene miles
 dñe de eod' et philippe vñs ejus filie Roberti Dñi Clericor' de Chorleke elisabeth' vñs ejus filie et Thome Dñi de eod' qui
 quidē Thomas Greene pater predict' Thome Greene fuit filius et heres Thome Greene militis Dñi de Morton predicti
 cū et Marię Chris ejus filie Ric' dñi Talbot et Ankerete vñs ejus filie et heredis Johannis dñi Strange de Blumere
 Qui quidē platus Thomas filius pñcor' Thome et philippe obiit 13^{to} die mensis septembris anno dñi millimo
 cccc lxxi et pre fata Watfild una filiarum Johis et hrok morton de magere quondā sub Thelaucary Angli obiit
 die mensis Anno dñi milla cccc quorum animabus ppetietur Deus Amen



In Greene Norton Church

See Plate 15. 188

GREEN MONUMENTS.
 Copied from the original in the
 Library of the Society of Antiquaries

choughs Proper. 5. S. a fess dancette, and in chief three fleurs-de-lis Az. *Durant*. On a square tablet, between two circular pillars,

HERE LYETH YE BODIES OF JOHN HICKLINGE, ESQUIRE, SOMETIME OF THIS TOWNE, WHO LEFT THIS LYFE YE LAST OF NOVEMBER, 1558, AND CHRISTIAN HIS WIFE, DAUGHTER TO JOHN CAMFIELD, OF LONDON, ESQUIRE. SHE DIED THE 24TH OF FEBRUARIE, 1556, LEAVING ISSUE WILLIAM HICKLINGE THEIR ELDEST SONNE AND HEIRE, JOHN 2 SONNE, ELIZABETH, JANE, AND URSULEY, ALL THREE MARRIED, wch JOHN HICKLINGE WAS SONNE AND HEIRE OF JOHN HICKLINGE, ESQUIRE (AND OF ISABEL HIS WIFE, DAUGHTER AND HEIRE OF WALTER DURANT, OF CALVERTON IN COMIT. BUCK. ESQUIRE), SONNE AND HEIRE OF WILLIAM HICKLINGE, SOMETIME LORDE OF HICKLINGE IN COM. STAFF. ESQUIRE.

VI. Collateral with the last is a handsome marble monument. In the centre is a double desk or altar, before which is a man in armour kneeling, and opposite to him two female figures, one behind the other. Over them is a canopy fringed with gold, the curtain withdrawn by an angel on each side. Above, between two pillars, arms; *Hickling*, impaling, Per pale O. & G. a lion rampant between three fleurs-de-lis Counterchanged, *Goodwin*. Beneath is an inscribed tablet, and on the bell below, arms; Erm. two bars S. each charged with five elm-leaves O. *Elmes*, impaling *Hickling*.

HERE LYES THE BODIES OF WILLIAM HICKLINGE, ESQ. AND FRANCES HIS ONLY WIFE (DAUGHTER OF JOHN GOODWIN, OF WINCHINTON IN YE COUNTY OF BUCKINGHAM, ESQ.) SONNE AND HEIRE OF JHON HICKLINGE, OF GREENS NORTON IN YE COUNTY OF NORTHAMPTON, ESQ. Wch WILLIAM DEPARTED THIS LIFE AUGUST THE 5th 1606, AND FRANCES DYED AUGUST YE 25, 1603, LEAVING ISSUE BEHINDE THEM ONE ONLY DAUGHTER AND HEIRE CHRISTIAN, MARRIED TO THOMAS ELMES, SONNE OF EDMUNDE ELMES OF LILEFORD IN YE COUNTY OF NORTHAMPT. ESQ. BY WHOME SHE HAD ISSUE SEAVEN SONNES AND FIVE DAUGHTERS.

On marble slabs:

4. To the Memory of the
Rev. Mr. HENRY PINCKARD, A.M.
Son of Mr. HENRY
and Mrs. ANN PINCKARD,
who departed this Life
September 27th 1785,
Aged 28 years.
5. To the Sacred Memory of
Mrs. ANN PINCKARD of Handley,
and Daughter of Mr. THOMAS & HANNAH
FLESHER of Duncot.
She was Married Jan. 26, 1756, and lived
an Example to Wives; diligent in the
Service of God, Amiable to her Husband,
affectionate to her Children,
affable to her Friends, and to the poor
and oppressed, hospitable and compassionate.
When the Hour was come, she calmly
resigned this Life on Feb. 9, 1762,
Aged 29, in Hopes of a Resurrection
to a better, deeply lamented by her
Husband, her Relations, and
Acquaintance.

ALSO
To the Memory of Mr. HENRY PINCKARD,
who
was when living deservedly esteemed
and at his Death sincerely lamented.
He resigned this Life
in Expectation of a better

the 2d day of January, 1784,
in the 70th year of his Age.

THOMAS PINCKARD, Son of the above
Mr. HENRY & Mrs. ANN PINCKARD,
died May 10, 1782,
in the 21st Year of his Age.

6. In the Dust of this Earth sleeps
THOMAS FLESHER, Gent. of Duncot,
who first married Hephzibah Hawkins, of
this Parish, and afterwards Hannah Gilbert,
of Ludgate Hill, London, by each of
whom he had several children:
He was Steward to L. Lempster,
and the late and present Earl of Pomfret,
about 60 years, which Office, as well
as that of Husband, Father, Master, and
Friend, was by him Truly
discharged.
Worn out rather by Time, than
Illness, he lay down to rest, aged
78, on Feb. 10, 1762, earnestly
expecting to awake when the
End shall be to Life
everlasting.

In Memory of
Mrs. HANNAH FLESHER,
who, after having many years most
faithfully discharged the Office of a
Wife, a Parent, and a Friend,
departed hence July 25th 1774,
in fervent Hope of a Resurrection to
a better Life hereafter.

7. To the Memory of
Mr. John Pinckard, of Handley,
Son of Mr. Henry and Mrs. Pinckard,
who
departed this Life on the 23rd day of
January 1834, aged 74 years,
leaving an afflicted widow and
family to lament the loss
of an affectionate Husband and Father.
8. Underneath is interred the remains of
LETITIA FLESHER,
of DUNCOTE, spinster.
Obiit 1st June 1789, aetat. 53.
She endeared herself to the Poor
By her Benevolence in pouring
Oil and Wine into their wounds.
The Rev. THOMAS FLESHER, M.A.
Bachelor,
Vicar of Blakesley, and Rector of Tiffeld,
till he resigned to his NEPHEW.
Obiit Sept. 7th, 1796, aetat. 69.
Esteemed for benevolence,
Friendship, and liberal Hospitality;
a faithful Guardian
to the Widow and eight Children
of his affectionate Brother
GILBERT FLESHER.

Within the altar rails, on marble slabs,

9. To the Memory of
HEPHZIBAH, the wife of
THOMAS FLESHER, of this parish, Gent.
who departed this Life in sure
Confidence through mercy of
a Better, May 20th, 1725, aet. 29.
Leaving Issue SOPHIA, an only child.

She was the daughter
of THOMAS HAWKINS, Gent. by ELIZ.
HAWKINS, who lived and Died in this
Parish, and lye Inter'd
near this place.

10.

M. S.
Here lieth the Body of
FRANCES JACKSON, Wife of
the Rev. Mr. Thomas Jackson,
Rector of this Parish. She died
August the 19th, MDCXXXVIII.
in the 90th Year of her Age.
NEAR this place also lie interred
two of their Children, viz. Thos.
and Frances, who both died in
their Infancy.

Here likewise is inter'd
the Body of ye said
Rev. Mr. Thos. Jackson.
He died March the 28th,
A. D. 1749, in the 49th year of
his Age, having been Rector
of this Parish 23 years.
*Multis ille bonis flebilis
occidit.*

11.

IN MEMORY
of the Rev. Mr. THOMAS PRICE,
LL.B.
who was Rector of this Parish

24 years.

He died the 28th of August, 1772,
in the 74th Year of his Age.

ALSO

of Henry Price, son of the
Rev. Mr. THOS. PRICE.
He was Inter'd April 21st, 1755,
Aged 20 years.

Bridges records the following memorials^d, which are
now lost or illegible:

'In the middle of the first ascent in the chancel is the
portrait of a man, on a brass tablet, in a gown, and in a
praying posture: the head is lost; out of his mouth was
a label, and at each corner of the top and bottom were
coats of arms, and an inscription round the verge, which
are all torn off. From the circumstances, it should appear
to be the same with the following one preserved in Bel-
chier's Collections:

** Hic jacet Dominus Nicolaus Russell, quondam Rector
istius Ecclesiar, filius et heres Roberti Russell, Armigeri, quon-
dam Domini de Strensham in Com. Wigornie, qui quidem Ni-
cholaus obiit septimo quadragesimo septuagesimo
nono. Cujus Animæ propitiatur Deus. Amen. De Caritate
vestra pro Anima mea dicatis Pater noster & Ave Maria.*

'Orate pro Anima Johannis Craven, nuper le Chantry Preest
de Norton Davy & Rectoris de Moltby, qui obiit 12 Marti
Anno D'ni 1519. Cujus Animæ propitiatur Deus. Amen.'

CHANTRY. Richard Myddleton, of Norton Davy, esq. by will dated 18 Nov. 1489 (1 Hen. 7), directed his body to be buried in the tomb of marble which he had "ordained" under the north wall of the chapel of the holy Trinity, in the parish church of Norton; and desired his dear wife Maud to enjoy his lands and tenements which he had in the counties of Northampton and Derby, formerly belonging to his brother William Myddleton, and of which his wife was jointly seised for life with herself, upon condition of her providing a priest to sing and pray perpetually in the said church, and for a perpetual obit for him, his said wife dame Maud, Thomas Green, knight, sometime her husband, his father, mother, and all his ancestors and friends^e. There is now no trace of the "tomb" alluded to, but his widow, by the description of Matilda Green widow, had licence in 12 Hen. 7 (1496), to found a chantry here^b. At the ecclesiastical survey 26 Hen. 8 (1535), it was valued at £6 *per ann.*ⁱ In the chantry roll of 38 Hen. 8 (1546) it was rated at £10. 10s. 9d. *per ann.* whereof 14s. 6d. was paid for rents resolute, £1. 19s. 8d. for yearly obits, distribution; to poor folk, and mending highways, 12s. for the king's tenths, and £7. 4s. 7d. for the priest's salary. The jewels and ornaments were valued at £5. 4s. 3d.ⁱ The first cantarist was probably John Craven, who died in 1519. Peter Craven occurs in 1535ⁱ. Sir John Sheldon was instituted 3 Oct. 1544, on the presentation of the king. On the dissolution of chantries in 2 Edw. 6 (1548), "Maud Grenes" chantry at Norton was certified to have lands in the counties of Northampton and Leicester of the yearly value of £10. 17s. 9d. deducting therefrom 14s. 6d. for rents resolute, 4s. for amending the ways, 3s. 2d. for the fifteenths when payable, £1. 12s. 6d. for the poor, and £8s. 3d. to John Sheldon the cantarist, who was thirty-eight years of age, "meet to serve a cure," and had no other living. The incumbent had sold goods since 23 Nov. 37 Hen. 8 (1545), to the amount of £2. 5s. 4d. as by inventory, and there remained goods worth £1. 16s. 3d. as by inventory. No preacher, schoolmaster, or poor people, were relieved, other than appeared above, and the number of houseling people, or communicants, was 200ⁱ. The house for the cantarist stood opposite to the south wall of the church-yard, and has been recently modernised.

BENEFACTIONS (vide p. 2). CAPOON or CAPORN'S CHARITY. Thomas Capoon, or Caporn, in 1557 gave a rent-charge of 3s. yearly out of an estate at Norton, to the churchwardens for the time being, 2s. 4d. to be distributed among the poor of Norton, 4d. to the highways, and the remaining 4d. to the churchwardens for their trouble. The portion due to the poor, with some additions from the parish funds, is applied to the purchase of penny loaves, which are given on the Sunday after Easter among the children attending the school at Norton; but the sums payable to the highways and churchwardens have not been received of late years.

IVES'S CHARITY. The Rev. William Ives of Bradden, by will dated 20 June 1693, gave to the poor of Norton during the public profession of the reformed religion in England, £50 in money, or £3 yearly, out of his lands, to be distributed among twelve poor families that constantly attend the public worship of God in the church of Greens Norton, 5s. to each on the first Sunday after the 10th of June yearly, after morning service, by his heirs and executors, or their agents. The sum of £3 yearly is paid on account of the above charity, as a rent-charge on an estate at Bradden belonging to Cornelius Ives, esq.

^a Br. 1, p. 242.^b "Collect. Belchier."^c Ibid.^d Peterborough Reg.^e Pat. 6 Nov. 12 Hen. 7, p. 1.^f Anglo. Off.

LEESON'S CHARITY. The sum of 30s. yearly, received under this charity, for the poor of the parish of Greens Norton, is laid out in the purchase of warm clothing, which is given away among the deserving and necessitous poor by the churchwardens.

THE CHURCH LAND consists of an allotment of 6a. 1r. 27p. of land by the commissioners of inclosure in lieu of lands in the open fields which had been from time immemorial appropriated to the repair of the parish church. It is now let for £10. 10s. *per ann.* and the rent is carried to the churchwarden's general account, and applied with the church rate.

SLAPTON CHARITY ESTATE, and NATIONAL SCHOOLS. This estate is situated at Slapton in Buckinghamshire, and comprises about 26 acres of land, let for £26. 6s. *per ann.* This property is understood to have been purchased by persons named Gray and Waterman, as executors of Aaron Wood, who, by will dated in 1719, directed the residue of his personal estate and effects to be disposed of to such charitable uses as his executors, or any two of them, should think fit. The rector of Greens Norton for the time being is the sole acting trustee of the charity, and as long as is remembered the rents have been applied partly in educating poor children of Greens Norton and Whittlebury, and partly in occasional relief to the poor of those places. It appears by an account of the application of the rents, in the hand-writing of the late rector, dated in 1784, that the sum of £10 was then paid to the master of a school at Whittlebury for the education of sixteen poor children, eight of whom belonged to Whittlebury, and eight to the township of Silveston; and £5 was paid to the master of a school at Greens Norton for the instruction of ten poor children of that place.

The schools at Whittlebury and Norton were kept in houses belonging to the duke of Grafton, for which a small yearly rent or acknowledgment used to be paid, and besides the free scholars they were attended by other children, who paid for their education. In 1819 the inhabitants of the different parishes adopted the resolution of converting the respective schools into NATIONAL SCHOOLS, on which footing they have since been conducted, being partly supported by subscriptions, and partly by a sum of £21. 6s. from the Slapton rents, which is applied towards making up the salaries to the schoolmasters. The school premises at each place have been considerably enlarged, in order to adapt them to their present purpose, but no rent has of late years been taken for either. The schools are attended by nearly the same number of scholars, amounting on an average to between seventy and eighty on week days, and about one hundred and fifty on Sundays, all of whom are instructed gratis in reading, writing, and arithmetic, on the national system.

Out of the surplus rents of the Slapton estate, the sums of £5 and £4. 14s. 6d. have been appropriated by the present rector to the relief of poor persons. Of these the former was distributed in 1818, in money among the poor of Whittlebury and Greens Norton, and the latter was laid out in clothes which were given away in 1824 to poor children attending the school at Greens Norton. The sum of £20 has also been contributed from the rents since the present rector (the rev. Thomas Fawcett) succeeded to the living, towards defraying the expense of the alterations made in the school premises at Whittlebury; and the residue has been retained by the rector for repairs on the charity estate, and as a fund to answer any future demands of the schools, in the event of the subscriptions for their support being discontinued; or if not required for such purpose, to be applied as heretofore in occasional relief to the poor. The amount of the balance in hand at the time of this inquiry was £16. 9s. 3d. &c.

The rent of this estate is now (1833) reduced to £20 *per ann.*, and in future there will be a consequent reduction in the amount appropriated to the different branches of the charity.

SAUNDERS'S CHARITY. One poor boy belonging to Greens Norton is regularly sent, on the nomination of the minister of the parish, to be educated under this charity at the school in Towcester.

QUEEN CATHERINE PARR, whose beauty obtained, and whose character adorned a crown, was youngest daughter of sir Thomas Parr by the coheirress of Green, and is traditionally reported to have been born at Greens Norton. Fuller, in treating of the Northamptonshire "Worthies," of which he himself was not the least, says, she "may probably be presumed a *Native* of this *Shire*. However, to prevent cavils we resign her over to *Westmerland*," but the historian of the county will be excused for not so readily relinquishing the honor. Before she had reached her teens a marriage was contemplated between her and the son and heir apparent of Henry lord Scrope, of Bolton, but the parents of both were actuated by pecuniary considerations, and, not coinciding in the terms, the negotiation failed. The correspondence of lady Parr with Thomas lord Dacre, the mutual friend of the parties, is exceedingly curious¹. In her first letter to him, dated 14 July (1523) she thus urges his mediation, "My lord (Scrope's) pleasour is to have a full answer from me before Lammas next comyng, wherefore it may please you to bee so good to have this mater in your remembrance, for I perceyve well this matter is not lyke to take effecte, except it be by your helpe. The joyntour is lytle for xi C mares whiche I wold nott passe, and my seyd Lord wyll nott repay after marriage hadd, and CC mares must nedys be repayd yf my daughter Kateryne dys before the age of xij yeres, or ells I shuld breke Master Parr's wyll, whiche I shold be lothe to doo; and ther can be no perlyte marriage untill my Lord's son come to the age of xiiij, and my daughter to the age of xij, before whiche tyme, if the marriage shuld take none effect, or be dissolved, either by deth, wardshipp, disgrement, or otherwise, whiche may bee before thatt tyme, notwithstandinge marriage solemnysed, repayment must nedes be hadd of the hole, or ells I myght fortune to pay my money for nothinge." The appeal was not made in vain; he assures her, "I have promise of my said Lord, and of my daughter, his wif, that they shal not marie their son without my consent, which they shall not have to no person but unto youe;" and in addressing lord Scrope he zealously advocates the match. "My Lorde, your son and

¹ Charity Commissioners' 14th report, p. 250 to 252.

² Whitaker's *Richmondshire*, i. p. 384, &c.

heire is the gretest jewell that ye can have, seeing that he must present [represent] your own person after your deth ;" and " I cannot see without that ye wold mary him to one heiro of land which woulde ryght costly, that ye can mary hym to so good a stok as my Lady Parr for divers considerations ; first, as remembering the wisdom of my seid Lady, and the god wise stok of the Grones, whereof she is comen, and also of the wise stok of the Pars of Kendale, for al which men doo looke when they do mary their child, to the wisdom of the blood of that they do marry with." The treaty lingered till the following May, and was then broken off; and as her first husband Edward Borough, son of lord Borough, was of a family inferior in opulence and blood to the Scropes, the connection might have been presumed to have taken place subsequent to the death of her mother, had she not been mentioned in her will in 1529, by the name of " Katherine Borough." She next became the second wife of John Neville, lord Latimer*, and in 1543, within a twelvemonth of his decease, was selected by the capricious Henry for his sixth queen. Henry, having carried on the work of reformation as far as suited his selfish and unprincipled views, seemed disposed to recede rather than to advance; and Catherine, devotedly attached to the cause, had a narrow escape of falling a sacrifice to her zeal. The king being confined by illness, she attended him with the most assiduous care, and he, often turning the conversation to his favorite topic—religion, she ventured to express her sentiments with more freedom than his impatience of opposition could brook. He complained of her dictation, to bishop Gardiner, who, with Wriothesley the chancellor, eager to remove so powerful an enemy to the Romish church, wilfully insinuated the danger of cherishing such a viper in his bosom, and worked so effectually on his wounded vanity and impetuous temper as to procure his sanction to a warrant for committing her to the tower on a charge of heresy and treason. A copy of this fatal document, with the royal signature, by some fortunate accident reached the queen, and all her address and courage were summoned to avert the impending blow. She repaired immediately to the king, who, entering on the ensnaring subject of controversy, she modestly declined the conversation, remarking that women by their original creation were made subject to men, who, being made after the image of God, as women were made after their image, ought to instruct the wives, and she was more especially bound to be taught of his majesty, as he was a prince of such excellent learning and wisdom. " Not so, by St. Mary," said the king, " you are become a doctor, Kate, able to instruct us, and not to be instructed by us." To which she replied, that he had misinterpreted her motives in arguing with him; that she was actuated solely by a desire to alleviate the anguish of his pain, and well knew that her opinions could only afford him a momentary amusement, but conversation was apt to languish without some opposition, and by this innocent artifice she had frequently reaped instruction from his profound knowledge. " And is it even so, sweetheart," exclaimed Henry, with great tenderness, " then are we perfect friends again." The next morning, while the king and queen were walking in the garden, the bishop, unaware of the reconciliation, appeared at the head of forty pursuivants to arrest her. The king stepped aside to him, and having dismissed him with the most opprobrious epithets, the queen, ignorant of the purpose for which he came, began to intercede for him, but she received no other answer from Henry than that she little knew how ill he deserved her good offices. Henceforward she uninterruptedly retained her influence over the king, who in his will acknowledges " her great love, obedience, chasteness of life, and wisdom." Henry died on the 28th of Jan. 1546-7, and long before the expiration of the year Catherine was the wife of Thomas lord Seymour, lord admiral of England, and brother of the protector Somerset. This union was not more precipitate, than it was unfortunate, harassed and insulted as she was by her haughty sister-in-law the duchess of Somerset, and neglected by her ambitious husband. She died in September the ensuing year, according to some authorities in child bed, but not without suspicion of poison, and was buried in the chapel of Sudley castle in Gloucestershire. She had diligently cultivated her talents, and in her life-time published, " Prayers or Meditations wherein the mynd is stirred patiently to suffer all afflictions here, and to set at nought the vaine prosperitie of this worlde, and always to long for the everlastynge felicitie. Collected out of holy workes by the most vertuous and gracious Princesse, Katherine Queen of Englande, France, and Irelande," 12mo, 1545. To the later editions of this little work were prefixed some devotional pieces with a set of fifteen psalms which she composed in imitation of David; and amongst her papers after her death was found, " Queen Catharine Parr's lamentations of a sinner, bewailing the ignorance of her blind life, before she renounced popery," which was edited with a preface by the great lord Burghley, 8vo, 1548 and 1563.

DUNCOTE is a hamlet of eighteen houses, north-east of Norton. It was inclosed under the same act as Norton in 39 Geo. 3 (1799).

FIELD BURCOTE lies north of Norton, and is an ancient freehold belonging to the duke of Grafton. There are only two houses.

CARSWELL is another ancient freehold, the property of the duke of Grafton, and is situated north-west of Norton. The house is a respectable residence, and was formerly moated round.

Duncote, Field Burcote, and Carswell first occur in 30 Edw. 1 (1302)^a. They are all manorial, as well as parochial, members of Norton.

POTCOTE is principally in the parish of Cold Higham in Towcester hundred; but a farm of about 130 acres belonging to the duke of Grafton, forms the northern extremity of the parish of Norton, and contributes to the church and poor rates, but maintains its own highways. There are two houses in Potcote; one in Higham parish, and the other partly in Higham, and partly in Norton.

^a Testamenta Vetusta, p. 650.

^b Hatton MSS. " Fin. 30 Edw 1."

^c Vide Srowe, vol. 1, p. 444.

WHITTLEBURY

is a parochial chapelry to Greens Norton, and, including about 1770 acres in Sholebrook and Wakefield walks in the forest of Whittlewood or Whittlebury, contains about 3010 acres. "The parish and liberties," exclusive of the forest land and some old inclosures, was inclosed by act of parliament in 37 Geo. 3 (1797). About 320 acres belong to George-Henry duke of Grafton, lord of the manor; about 490 acres to Charles lord Southampton; about 170 acres to the widow of the hon. Charles Fitzroy of Sholebrook lodge; and about 125 acres to George Shedden of Paulerspury, esq. It is bounded on the north by Towcester and Abthorp in Towcester hundred; east by Heathencote and Paulerspury, and south-east by Potterspury and a small part of Passenham, all in Cleley hundred; south by Lillingston Lovell in Oxfordshire, and Lillingston Dayrell in Buckinghamshire; south-west by Luffield and Silveston; and north-west by Hanley park in the parish of Towcester. The soil of the woodlands is principally a strong deep loam, but varies considerably in other parts of the lordship. It is nearly equally divided between arable and pasture.

MANORIAL HISTORY. Domesday is silent respecting Whittlebury; but in the hydarium of Hen. 2, under Towcester hundred, one *Richard* was certified to hold six small virgates in "Wytleybr" of the fee of Silveston^a; but of which of the three fees, Morton, Mandeville, or Pinkene, into which that vill was divided, is open to conjecture. It may, however, with tolerable certainty be referred to the former; for, if on the forfeiture of the Morton fee this estate was annexed to the royal manor of Norton, it would satisfactorily account not only for Whittlebury becoming a member of that parish, but for the jurisdiction being transferred to that hundred. In 9 Edw. 2 (1315) *John*, son and heir of William le Marshall, lord of Norton, was lord also of Whittlebury^b; and in 3 Edw. 3 (1329) the defendant in a suit pleaded that he ought not to answer to the writ, because "Wytleybr," where the tenement was claimed, was a hamlet to Norton, which was of the ancient demesne of the crown^c. It has always been reputed parcel of the manor of Norton, and has passed under the same title down to George-Henry duke of Grafton, the present lord (1834).

The descendants of Albericus or Aubrey the king's forester of "Wytleybr"^d in the reign of Henry II. adopted the local surname of Wyttebury. In 18 Edw. 1 (1290) Margery, widow of Aubrey de Wyttebury, fined in £300 to have the goods and chattels of her late husband, who was *felo de se* by drowning himself, reserving to the king the forfeiture of a year, day, and waste of his lands^e. The family afterwards migrated to the other extremity of the county; and in 21 Hen. 7 (1506) Robert de Wyttebury, esq. the last male heir, died seised of the manors of Milton and Marham near Peterborough^f.

The estates of William de Brandeston of Silveston^g, Geoffrey de Bradden^h, and sir John de Hausted of Den-shangerⁱ, extended into Whittlebury.

LUFFIELD PRIORY had lands in "Wytelbury" of the gift of Waleran, and confirmed by his son Albericus or Aubrey, the king's forester of "Wytelbury^k," who attested the grants from Ralph de Keynes of Dodford^l, and must therefore have been living in the reign of Henry II.

THE MANOR HOUSE stood in Lord's fields north of the village. The moat, which surrounded it, still remains, and a farm house occupies the area.

WHITTLEBURY LODGE, the seat of lord Southampton, is a modern mansion combining comfort with elegance. In the dining-room are some interesting portraits. King Charles the first's family when children, small whole-lengths, *by Vandyck*; king Charles the second, *by Vandyck*; Barbara duchess of Cleveland, whole-length, *by Lely*; James duke of Monmouth, *by Kneller*; Henry 1st duke of Grafton; Charles 1st lord Southampton, *by Reynolds*; Anne 1st lady Southampton, *by Reynolds*; colonel the hon. H. F. Stanhope, father of the present lady Southampton, *by Reynolds*; capt. Robert Faulkner, R.N. The house stands at the south-east extremity of Whittlebury green, skirting the forest; and prior to the additions and improvements of the present lord was a hunting box, erected by the late lord when he had the management of the late duke of Grafton's hunting establishment.

^a Cotton. MSS. Vesp. E. xxij. fo. 96.

^b Cardigan MSS. "Nom. Vill." p. 2.

^c Isham MSS. No. 37, "Plac. 3 Edw. 3."

^d Luffield

Cartulary, fo. 74.

^e Madox's Exchequer, 1, p. 347.

^f Trin. Commun. 18 Edw. 1.

^g Esc. 22 Hen. 7, n. 148.

^h Rot. Pip. 8 Edw. 1.

ⁱ Isham MSS. No. 37. Plac. 3 Edw. 3.

^j Esc. 10 Edw. 3, n. 42.

^k Luffield Cartulary, fo. 74.

^l Ibid. fo. 82.

the parliament. Dr. Calamy says, "At the restoration Dr. Skinner* laid claim to it, though I know not on what pretence. Mr. Fido stood a trial with him at the assizes at Northampton, and cast him. The judge declared that Mr. Fido had a legal title to the living, and no one could dispossess him of it; and told the doctor, that where preachers were well provided for, and still coveted more, it shewed that they minded the fleece more than the flock." Bishop Kennett contends that "hardly any part of this account can be true," as Whittlebury was no distinct benefice, but a forest chapel belonging to Greens Norton, to which Dr. Skinner, at the restoration, had the legal title, nor could there be any trial at Northampton near that time, or, had there been any trial, the judge would not have used such words to the bishop in the court, if then present; and the trial must have been in the times of confusion when justice was not thought due to the bishops." I agree with the bishop in the improbability of the judge resorting to such expressions, but he adduces no evidence to disprove the fact of the trial; and assuming it to have taken place, the decision was doubtless grounded, whether justly I presume not to determine, on Mr. Fido's appointment having been legally made by the parliament during its supremacy. On Mr. Fido's ejection by the Bartholomew act in 1662, he retired to London, and Whittlebury reverted again to Norton rectory.

John Gunter, LL.B. who had been ejected from the rectory of Bedal in Yorkshire, settled at Whittlebury, and preached, I presume, as a non-conforming minister, but was silenced the same year (1662) when he returned into Yorkshire, where he died.

THE CHURCH or CHAPEL, dedicated to the virgin Mary, stands at the north-west end of the village fronting the forest, and consists of a tower with four bells, nave, north and south aisles, south porch, and chancel. 'The first mention of this chapel is in the register of *Henry Burgher* bishop of Lincoln in 1322 o.' The tower is 11 ft. long by 9 ft. 6 in. wide; the nave and aisles 56 ft. 6 in. long, the nave 21 ft. 10 in., the north aisle 12 ft. 7 in., and the south aisle 11 ft. 2 in. wide; and the chancel 29 ft. 4 in. long by 17 ft. 6 in. wide. The interior was neatly paved and peded in 1815. The nave is divided from each aisle by three arches on octangular pillars with capitals of plain mouldings, except the centre one on the north side, which is ornamented. The chancel is entered by an ascent of three steps.

MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS.

NORTH AISLE. Slab for

Mrs. Jane Hart, 6 Dec. 1758, æt. 65.

CHANCEL. On the north wall are several mural tablets.
I. Within the altar rails, on a plain tablet of black marble:

Near

this place lieth the Body
of the Rev^d JOHN YATE, A.M.
who departed this life
Sept the 28th 1766,
in the 85th year of his
age.

*He was a faithful Servant of Christ,
a Pattern worthy of Imitation,
With much Diligence as a Workman
that needed not to be ashamed.
He discharged the great Function
of the Ministry in the Curacy
of Whittlebury & Silverston
for the space of
.53 Years.*

II. On a circular tablet of white marble, with a black
back ground:

IN MEMORY OF
THE REV^d HENRY BEAUCLERK,
ONLY SON OF
THE RIGHT HON^{ble} LORD HENRY BEAUCLERK,
AND MARTHA, SISTER OF NEVILLE LORD LOVELAKE.
BORN AUGUST 12th 1745;
DIED NOVEMBER 7th 1817.
HE WAS 45 YEARS RECTOR OF THE PARISHES OF GREENS
NORTON, WHITTLEBURY, AND SILVERSTON,
IN THE COY OF NORTHAMPTON.
PRECENTOR OF THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF HEREFORD,
AND MANY YEARS RECTOR OF LECHAMPSTEAD
IN THE COY OF BUCKS,
AND OF LLANSAINTEFRID
IN THE COY OF MONTGOMERY.

III. On a rectangular tablet of white marble, sur-
mounted by an urn, and backed by black marble:

SACRED TO THE MEMORY OF HARRIET,

THE BELOVED CHILD OF JOHN AND MARY BEAUCLERK,
WHO, TO THE INEXPRESSIBLE GRIEF OF HER AFFLICTED PARENTS AND FRIENDS
WAS TAKEN FROM THIS TRANSITORY WORLD ON THE 29th OF JUNE 1826,
IN THE 15th YEAR OF HER AGE.
RELIGIOUS AND CHARITABLE, DUTIFUL AND AFFECTIONATE,
KIND TO EVERY BODY, WITH VERY SUPERIOR SENSE,
AND A MIND STORED WITH EVERY VIRTUE
WHICH WOULD HAVE ADORNED MORE ADVANCED LIFE,
HER SPOTLESS SPIRIT IS GONE TO RECEIVE THE REWARD
OF HER SHORT BUT EXEMPLARY LIFE.

IV. Collateral with the two last, is a handsome mo-
nument of white marble by Chantrey. Above, on an in-
scribed plinth, is a female figure in flowing drapery, with
her arms folded on her breast, rising from a tomb, on the
lid of which is written:

A.D.
MDCCLXX.
ÆTAT. XX.

On the plinth is inscribed:

CONJUGI DULCISSIMÆ

* Kennett's Register, p. 808.

* Br. 1. p. 247.

† Rector of Norton, p. 63.

CAROLETTÆ

ELEGANTIA, VERECUNDIA, PIETATE

EGREGIE,

JACOBUS BRADSHAW ARM:

LUCTUS ACERBI ET DESIDERII FIDELIS
MONUMENTUM POSUIT.

2. On a marble slab:

Sacred to the Memory
ofJOSEPH SMYTH, Esq.
Fifty Two Years Lieutenant
of

Whittlebury Forest.

He died April the 23^d 1799,
In the Eighty Eighth Year

of his Age.

and of

Lucy his wife.

She died March the 9th 1800,

In the Seventy Second Year

of her age,

And was buried in the
Cathedral Church

at

Norwich.

Bridges says, 'P In the area of the church on an antique marble is the figure of a monk in brass, and at his feet was an inscription, which is now lost.' The figure has also disappeared.

BENEFACTIONS. (Vide p. 2.)

BYAM'S CHARITY. A quantity of cloth, sufficient for four women's gowns, with money for the purchase of four pair of shoes, and a further sum of 10s. are sent yearly from Ampthill in Bedfordshire, by the trustees of this charity to the churchwardens of Whittlebury, to be applied as directed by the donor. The cloth and the shoes are given away to four poor widows selected by the churchwardens and overseers as the most needy and deserving objects, and the sum of 10s. is added to, and applied with, Leeson's charity and the rent of the Poor's land for the benefit of the poor of Whittlebury.

LEESON'S CHARITY. The sum of 20s. *per ann.* received under this charity for the poor of Whittlebury, is carried to the same account as the 10s. of Byam's charity, and the rents of the Poor's land.

POOR'S LAND. An allotment of 6a. 1r. 14p. of land was awarded on the inclosure of Whittlebury in 1797 to the rector and parish officers for the time being, in trust to lay out the rents and profits in fuel, provisions, or other necessaries for the necessitous and industrious poor of Whittlebury in such proportions as the major part of the inhabitants at their first general vestry after the 21st of Dec. in each year, should direct. The land is let for £6 *per ann.* and the rent is added to the sums received under Byam and Leeson's charities, and applied in the purchase of blankets, flannel, and other articles of winter clothing which are distributed annually among poor persons of Whittlebury, in quantities corresponding to their necessities according to a list previously agreed upon by the inhabitants.

SLAPTON CHARITY ESTATE. Vide NORTON, p. 66.

ROMAN ANTIQUITIES. Under the roots of some trees belonging to Mr. Cook, near the church-yard, which were felled in 1822, were found a small grooved brass celt, and fragments of inscribed Roman bricks. The inscriptions are impressed with a stamp about 1½ in. broad, which leaves a cavity in the brick with raised letters. On one fragment is remaining LEG ***, and on another of the bricks, or probably another portion of the same brick, *** XXVV, evidently allusive to the xxth legion, stiled *Valens Victrix*, which was stationed sometime in Britain, and quartered at Deva or Chester, the western head of the line of the Watling street, now the Chester road, from which the place where these relics were dug up is not two miles distant. On the same spot were then, or subsequently found, a number of Greek, consular, and imperial Roman coins. Amongst others, (1) A silver drachma of Alexander the Great, with the usual reverse of Jupiter seated; (2) supposed to be a Roman forgery of a Greek coin of Metapontum in Lucania. On weighing it, it is found much lighter than any of the genuine coins, and a small hole in the obverse clearly proves it to be *suberatus* or copper covered over with silver. The spike of barley also in execution is very inferior to those made by the Greek artists; (3) small brass of Panormus in Sicily; (4) silver denarius of the Postumian family, said to have been struck by Caius Postumius Albinus, who held the office of consul B. C. 100; (5) silver denarius of the Cornelian family, ascribed to Caius Cornelius Lentulus, who was consul B. C. 60; (6) silver denarius of the Crepusian family; (7) second-brass of Hadrian, reverse, a galley, S. C.; (8) second-brass of Hadrian, reverse, a modius of corn, *Annona Aug.*; (9) third-brass of Gallienus, struck in Egypt, reverse the eagle and palm-branch, L.II.

p. Br. 1. p. 247.

WHITTLEBURY, OR WHITTLEWOOD FOREST.

though curtailed of its former dimensions, is still an extensive tract of woodland, stretching along the south-east side of the county into the hundreds of Norton and Cleley, and encroaching at one point on the parish of Lillingston Dayrell in Buckinghamshire.

FORESTS are of such remote antiquity that their first formation cannot be traced by record or history. As cultivation advanced, the wild beasts naturally fled into the aboriginal woods for shelter and protection. Many of these unreclaimed districts were not included in the distribution of lands among the Saxon settlers, and belonging to no private proprietor, were appropriated by our early monarchs for the pleasures of the chase, and placed under a distinct code of laws by Canute in 1016. The forests anterior to the Norman era may be termed primeval, in contradistinction to the factitious ones created by an express exercise of the royal prerogative. The time and circumstances of the afforestations of New Forest in Hampshire by William the conqueror, and of Hampton Court in Middlesex by Henry VIII. are well authenticated. But the origin of the forest now under consideration, though of the same class, can only be imperfectly developed by inferential evidence. That it was not one of the Saxon forests for which Canute legislated is certain, and equally so that it was not a forest at the Norman survey, for neither the *forest* nor the *vill* of Whittlebury is found in Domesday. It is doubtful whether the former or the latter gave name to the other, or whether they sprang to local life simultaneously, but the parochial dependence of Whittlebury on Norton has been positively shewn—the name and its contiguity to the vill clearly indicate a similar affiliation, and the range of wood surveyed under the parent manor may therefore be safely pronounced the nucleus of the forest. If it be objected that the forest is detached from Norton by the intervention of Towcester parish; it might be sufficient to reply, that the objection is equally applicable to the vill, and is by no means a solitary or insuperable one, but it is singularly remarkable that in the present case Hanley park, which would serve as the connecting link, was a constituent part of the forest at the first perambulation in Edward I. and probably a portion of the original Norton woods, as it was not then in Towcester parish, which was specially returned to be beyond the forest boundary; and “Kingthorn,” the only present remnant of wood in Norton, lies on the Whittlebury side of the lordship. The earliest notice of the forest is furnished by the cartulary of Luffield priory. Osulf the forester is one of the witnesses to the earl of Leicester’s foundation charter^a in the reign of Henry I.; and that monarch commands “all his foresters of Whittlewood” to permit the prior and monks of Luffield to have all convenient easements in his forest without waste^b. During the successive reigns of Henry II. and his sons Richard and John, the forests were arbitrarily enlarged, by drawing within their circuits the adjacent woods and lands of the nobility and gentry, who were thus debarred from the cultivation and control of the property which still nominally belonged to them; and the unsparing rigour with which the obnoxious exactions and sanguinary punishments for infraction of the forestal laws were enforced, filled up the measure of those intolerable grievances which provoked the barons to extort from their tyrannical but pusillanimous sovereign, the *magna charta* and *charta de foresta*. But before the ordinances respecting the forests could be carried into effect, the king died, and all proceedings were suspended till Henry III. in the ninth year of his reign, in consideration of a grant of the fifteenth of all moveables for prosecuting the war against France, confirmed the *charta de foresta*, by which all afforestations made subsequent to the coronation of Henry II. were annulled. To this end, perambulations were ordered throughout the kingdom for distinguishing between the old and new forests. But in the twelfth of this reign (1228) a writ was directed to the sheriff of Northamptonshire for the revocation of the perambulation, wherein, after reciting that the perambulating knights acknowledged they had misconstrued their instructions, which enjoined them to disafforest all the woods which king Henry (II.) grandfather of the present king, had afforested, and did not except those which were forest before his time, and which he re-afforested, whereby they thought that as well those woods were to be disafforested which he re-afforested, as those which he newly afforested; and that all the forest of this county which they had consequently disafforested in their perambulation, was afforested before the time of king Henry (II.) and after it had been destroyed in the wars of king Stephen, was again made forest by king Henry (II.) as it was in the time of king Henry (I.) his grandfather; he, the sheriff, was therefore commanded to cause it to be proclaimed throughout all his bailiwick, that the forest be kept by the same metes and bounds as in the time of king John, before the war waged between him and the barons of England; and cause it to be strictly forbidden, that any one should commit trespass in the forest against vert or venison, and that bows and arrows, greyhounds and braches (terriers?) should be wholly removed therefrom, excepting certain parts which king Henry (II.) the king’s grandfather, newly afforested in the county by these metes and bounds underwritten, *viz.* whatsoever lies on the west side of the bridge of “Haverburg” [Market Harborough in Leicestershire], as the road which is called “Bedefordeweie” extends itself to the bridge of “Aringworth” [Arthingworth], and so by the same road to the cross which stands on the boundary of the fields of “Hetherinton” [Harrington] and “Keilmers” [Kelmarsh], and so by the same boundary to the brook which runs between “Maydewell” and “Dratton” [Draughton], and so descending by the same brook to Brampton bridge, and so by the water running on the west side of Northampton to the south bridge of the same town, and from thence, as the road leads, to “Brackel” [Brackley] without “Gayle” to the bridge of Slapton, and so by the same road through the middle of the town of

^a Luffield Cartulary, fo. 1.

"Brackel" as far as the county of Northampton extends towards "Goldewell".^b And in 15 Hen. 3 (1231) the sheriff of Northamptonshire was directed to cause all the knights who were at the last perambulation of the forest from Northampton to Banbury bridge, to appear before the king at Westminster, and not to permit the woods belonging to Henry de Brantesdon and William de Toucestre to be felled.^c This line of demarcation, as it proceeds southwards, marks, or nearly so, the present western limits of Whittlebury forest, which previously extended considerably beyond it, for about 3 Hen. 3 (1219) Morton Pinkeney wood was within its bounds^d; and not being subsequently so described^e, it may fairly be inferred to have been emancipated by this new regulation. Wappenham wood and other places might also be enumerated. The intestine divisions which distracted the country through the long and feeble reign of Henry, operated with other causes to retard the progress of severing the new from the old afforestations; but the work was resumed with vigour under Edward I. In the seventh of his reign a mandate issued to Richard de Holebrook, the king's seneschal, to take with him Elias de Tingewick, custos or warden of the forest of "Whitlewood," and John Fitz-Nigel, warden of the forest of Bernewood (in Buckinghamshire), and personally go to all the king's woods in their bailiwicks and make trenches as the king had enjoined them "viva voce" with all convenient speed^f. The people being dissatisfied with mere verbal confirmations of the charter, whilst the promised perambulations were postponed, without which it was impracticable to disafforest the former encroachments, the king at length issued orders for the commissioners to rendezvous at Northampton by Michaelmas day in 1299 (27 Edw. 1), and proceed without further delay. No time was lost in the perambulation of the forest, which took place in the same month before Roger Brabazon and the other justices appointed for the purpose, when it was found by the oaths of the jury Walter Fitz-Robert de Daventre, Geoffrey de Sandycare, John de Roscles, William de Wotton, Elias de Preston, John de Hargrave, Thomas Malekaks, Roger Musindene, Adam de Toursmere, Robert le Bon, Henry Gobyon, John de Barneville, John de Grymescoete, Theobald de Erenle, Thomas de Gretworthe, Reginald Clerik, John de la Hache, John de Wydevyll, John le Forester, Reginald Mallory, and John de Camelyntone, that the bounds and division of "Whitlewode" were from the bridge of Stony Stratford by the old watercourse of the Ouse, including in the forest Passenham and Kyngesham to Salewere, and then to Kyngham Mere, and then between the fields of Great Denshanger and Little Denshanger to the Portwey (an ancient road through the forest in the direction of Northampton), and then across the Portwey between Kyngesbarwe and Wykebarwe [probably two tumuli] by Wytricheswey, between the fees of Passenham and Wykedye to the garden of Elias de Tyngwyk, and so by a certain ditch including the said garden, together with his manor of . . . Great Denshanger, and then across by Kyngesbrook to Bournwell, between the king's demesne wood and the wood of John Dyve, excluding the said Dyveswood, to Byrchengene [otherwise Sutfield green], and then between the king's demesne wood to Westmedyke [or Westmede dykes, at the corner of Wakefield lawn], and then between the wood of Norton [Notam?] and Heywood [Heyborne wood] to Fertlynger [Farthing corner], including Norton [Notam] wood only, and then to Stonifordhaecche [Stonyford hatch], and then to Alyenewodbrok [or Lillingston Dayrell brook in Buckinghamshire?] and then to Chapelhaecche [or Chapel green, the site of St. Thomas Becket's chapel in Lillingston Dayrell], and then by the middle of the priory of Luffield, between the counties of Northampton and Buckingham, and then to Wolmerestyl between Hynewod and Haselberwe [Haselborough], by Hynewode Ruydyng [Henwood Riding], but excluding the said Hynewode [or Henwood, formerly a purlieu wood, but now an arable inclosure belonging to the duke of Buckingham and Chandos], and then by Langeleys between Marywode [a purlieu wood in Buckinghamshire, belonging to George Morgan, esq. of Bittlesden], and Haselberwe to Litleheybrigg [the bridge which crosses the turnpike road to Brackley near Siresham hatch], and then between the king's demesne wood and the fee of Winchester by a certain ditch to Lurtebrokbrigg [on the Brackley road near Siresham], the vill of Wyteveld [Whitfield] remaining in the forest as before, and from Lurtebrokbrigg, including the grange of Kyngeshull [near Siresham] to Stakeswell [now a small farm house between Siresham and Wappenham], and then between Bydemor and Bichenho to Warpenam wode [now Priesthay in Wappenham, a purlieu wood belonging to Samuel Dendy, esq. which skirts the forest for more than a mile], and then by Le Rede Weye [the Ride Way], and so between the wood of the monks of St. Andrew of Northampton [now Monkwood in Silveston, a purlieu wood belonging to J. Jackson Blencowe, esq. which skirts the forest nearly a mile], and the king's demesne wood to Haselbervenmor [Haselborough moor], and then to Tonebrigg [now the watergates at Silveston], and then to Heggessmune [a mill in Fisher's meadow now standing], including the park of Hanle within the old ditch, and then by a certain way to Newelbrigg [near Hanley park side], excluding Doowelleyhay [now called the Hayes farm], and the vill of Toucestre with the parish thereof, and then to Pavelyshegg [or Pavely's hedge in Paulerspury], and then to Wodekeshap [Wood Buroot?] by the fee of Norton [Whittlebury], and then between the fees of Pavely [Paulerspury] and of Norton [Whittlebury] to Odewell [now Grimsdick's farm in Whittlebury], to the Watlyngstrete [now the Chester road], and under the park of Potterspyrre, and then by the Watlyngstrete to the head of the vill of Potterspyrre, opposite to Weteleburn [Whittleburn, near the Gullet in Whittlebury lordship], and then by a certain way to Roule [now Coule], and then under the king's demesne wood by Redebruk [a small brook near the Gullet] to Bernylleswode [a small purlieu wood north of Potterspyrre], excluding the woods of Covessgrave and of Forho [Fortho], of the prior of Snelshall [in Covessgrave], of Elias de Tyngwyk, of John Fitz-John, and of John de Berneyll [in Covessgrave], and so to Berneylleshaecche, and then by a certain path to Santpittes [the sand pits between Potterspyrre and Cosgrave], and then excluding the fee of Leycestre to Wyckewell, and then across to Tripenheg in the [north] field of Pokesl [Puxley], and so between the fees of Leycestre and Passenham, including only the fee of Passenham, and from Tripenheg under cover of Pokesl [Puxley], and of Schrobbe by Alwynesfeld to Ketelshull, and then to Passialescrofeshurn, and then rising beyond the Watlyngstrete, by a certain way which leads to the field gate of the rector of Forho [Fortho], including all the wood called Nottescokest [or Nottespokesley, otherwise Nottes copse], and then by the Watlyngstrete to the said bridge of Stony Stratford^g.

^b Claus. 12 Hen. 3, m. 9 verso.^c Cardigan MSS. G. 3. Claus. 15 Hen. 3.¹⁷^d Bittlesden Cartulary. (Harl. MSS. 4714) fo. 24.^e Ibid. fo. 260b. &c.^f Orig. 7 Edw. 1, r. 17.^g Rot. Peramb. North. 27 Edw. 1, m. 11, & Pat. 22 Ric. 2, p. 1, m. 35.

The perambulation of the outlying portion of the forest in the counties of Oxford and Buckingham, was deferred till the following spring (28 Edw. 1) when it was found on the oaths of an Oxfordshire jury, before the said Roger le Brabazon and his associates, that the forest of "Whytlewode" began at Baggerode,^a near Stowehach (now in the park of the duke of Buckingham and Chandos), between the wood of the abbey of Oseneay and the wood of Boycote (an isolated member of Oxfordshire, now included in Stowe park), and then to Foulmire, and then to Blakeputtes slade, and then to Holeywey, and then by the quick hedge to Stowehach, and so to the vill of Boycote (now depopulated), at Aylthwodebrok, between the counties of Oxford, Buckingham, and Northampton, and then by the divisions to Wytebury Rode, including the forest on the left side by all the underwritten metes and bounds, and excluding from the forest all the remainder on the right side, and then to the Cokschute Weye (so called from its being a celebrated place for netting woodcocks), and then to the quickhedge between the wood and the field at the Brode of the Lesewe, and then by the quickhedge to the ditch at the Sterestile, and then going down between the field of Heyburne [in Leckhampsted parish in Buckinghamshire] and the field of Lillingston [Dayrell in the same county], to the Hertstrete, at the top of Throkemede, and then by the Hertstrete to the division between the field of Lillingston and Heyburne and then going up to Wakerfeld Rode, and so by the quick hedge to the Blackputte, and then to Hardeley grene, and then to Byrchengrene, and then to Southfelderode, and then to Thistelgrene, and then to Leychehamrode [Leckhampsted road], and then across to Stotesditch, and then to Torenlaterchawe, and then to the stream which comes from Aylinwodebroks, and then by the said stream to Magna Lillingston [or Lillingston Lovell, an isolated portion of Oxfordshire] which, with its fields, woods, and other pertinencies, is without the forest; and the jurors further said, that Boycote wood, which then belonged to the abbat of Bittlesden, and Magna Lillingston wood, which then belonged to Geoffrey de Braden and Adam de Montalt, were afforested after the coronation of king Henry (II.) great-grandfather of the present king, to such damage that neither they, their ancestors, nor predecessors from that time to the present, were able to take any thing out of the said woods, except by the livery or view, and according to the will of the foresters; nor could they take or receive any profit of the said woods as they used to do before the coronation of the said king, without the attachment and impeachment of the same foresters. And the jurors further presented, that all the aforesaid woods were afforested after the coronation of the said king Henry (II.) as they understood from the relation of their ancestors, and from the common fame or report of the country through the villages adjacent to the forest, but they knew not which, or what quantity of the woods were severally afforested in the time of kings Henry, Richard, and John. Therefore, after these perambulations, whatever was put out of the forest should remain out of the forest, and the remainder should remain forest by the metes and bounds aforesaid.

In May of the same year (28 Edw. 1 1300) the perambulating jury for the county of Buckingham presented, that king Henry (II.) great-grandfather of the present king, had no demesne woods of the crown in that county within the bailiwick of John de Tyngwyl [Tengewick], forester of "Whytlewode," and there was no forest there except what was made by the said king, and in the times of the kings after, and not before him. The perambulations throughout the kingdom being finished, and the inquisitions returned into chancery, a parliament was summoned to meet in Jan. (28 Edw. 1, 1300) to receive the reports of commissioners which were examined and finally approved; and the king by letters patent in Feb. following ordained, that the marks, meers, and bounds then returned and certified of record, should remain as standing evidence of the boundaries of the forests in every county for ever. The Oxfordshire perambulation included also the Buckinghamshire portion of Whittlebury forest; and Boycote and Lillingston Lovell, which in fact are only isolated spots of the former, surrounded by the latter county, being thereby placed out of the pale of the forest; and the Buckinghamshire jury by its inquest virtually excluding their portion, the forest was reduced to the present limits, which are wholly within the county of Northampton, except a small nook of between two and three hundred acres in Lillingston Dayrell in Buckinghamshire.

This circuit thus established, was confirmed by subsequent perambulations as late as June 11, Car. 1 (1636). Four years afterwards, however, the king attempted to enlarge the boundaries, and a new perambulation was made in May 15 Car. (1639) by Thomas Knighte, gent. Francis Butler, gent. Robert Hopkyns, Richard Scrivenor, Richard Fitz-Hugh alias Caporne, Richard Webb, gent. John Hopkyns, Richard Robyns, Robert Clarke, William Reeve, gent. Thomas Holman, and Robert Heuson, regards of the forest of Whittlewood, who, on their oaths presented, that the forest began at Thornton bridge [in Buckinghamshire], and so by the course of the Ouse [which divides the counties of Buckingham and Northampton] to Stratford bridge, and then by the said river to a river called Stinle, and so by that river to Atheford bridge, and then by the same river to Cademan bridge [Capman's bridge, between Grafton and Towcester], and so by the said river to the north bridge without the vill of Towcester, and then by the King's way, which leads towards North. [Northampton] by the middle of the way of Tiffend [Tiffield] to a place called Snakemor, and then by the King's way called Oxenford Wey, between the vills of Donecote and Burcote [in Norton parish], and then by the middle of the vill of Braden, and then by the same way by the middle of the vill of Slapton, and then by the same way by the middle of one head of the vill of Wappenham to a windmill without the said vill, and then by the same way to a place called Crowfield [in Siresham], and so by the same way between the park of Wessele [now Whistley wood] and the vill of Westcote, to the bridge called Huberdisbrigg, and then by the same way by the middle of the vill of Brackley. The line from Brackley to Thornton bridge is not pointed out. But the omission was of no practical importance, for the unjust and arbitrary attempts to extend the bounds and revive the vexations of the forest laws, were defeated by an act of parliament in 1641 (17 Car.) which restricted all the royal forests to their reputed limits in the 20th of James I. and in effect re-established the perambulations in the reign of Edward I.

Whittlebury or Whittlewood Forest, according to the standard of perambulation in 27 Edw. 1 (1299), and for the

^a Rot. Peramb. Oxon, 28 Edw. 1, m. 7, & Pat. 43 Edw. 3, p. 1, m. 19.
Clameor, in Forest, de Whittlewood.

^b Rot. Peramb. Bucks, 29 Edw. 1, m. 2.

^c No. 3 in *Bundel 2*.

reasons above stated, excluding the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire perambulations in 28 Edw. 1 (1300), formed an irregular triangle inclosing within its area on a moderate computation about thirty-two square miles or 20480 acres. The whole of this circuit has not, however, continued to the present day forest land, or in possession of the crown. It comprises numerous and extensive manors and other freehold estates which have been silently, but progressively, exempted from forest jurisdiction; besides many purlieu woods, or encroachments by the crown on private property anterior to, and restored by the perambulation, which skirt the boundaries, and in which the proprietor and the forester have each the right of hunting or chasing back to the forest, the deer which chance to stray into them. The land still considered as forest is almost entirely encompassed with a ring mound, and by the survey made under the directions of the commissioners of woods and forests in 1791 contained 5424a. 1r. 11p.; of which 3895a. 0r. 23p. consisting of 69 different coppices, are covered with timber and underwood; 887a. 0r. 34p. are open plains and ridings never inclosed; 312a. 2r. 3p. are inclosed meadow and pasture lands appropriated to the use of the lord warden, lieutenant, and keepers; and 329a. 1r. 31p. are inclosed lawns appropriated to the use of the deer and the cattle of the warden and lieutenant¹.

In the reign of Henry III. this forest was divided into the walks of Wakefield and Hasleborough and the hay of Hanle (now Hanley park).² Sholebrook, Hanger, and Shrob walks were carved out of the former at an uncertain period, but subsequent to 6 Edw. 1 (1278)³, and the modern division was into the five walks of Hasleborough, Sholebrook, Wakefield, Hanger, and Shrobb.

HASLEBOROUGH WALK was disafforested and inclosed by act of parliament in 5 Geo. 4 (1824), and is therefore to be deducted from the above survey. It formed the south-western extremity of the forest, and contained 1413a. 1r. 37p. of which 840a. are in the parish of Whitfield in Sutton hundred, and 673a. in Silveston. It was not encircled with a ring fence on every side like the other walks, and the turnpike road from Northampton to Oxford passed through the centre of it, so that the deer and common cattle frequently strayed into the village of Silveston, and the adjacent places. There were ten coppices containing 578a. 3r. 11p. in the Whitfield division, in which the crown had the soil and the timber, and the duke of Grafton the underwood; and seven coppices containing 418a. 1r. 13p. in the Silveston division in which the soil, the timber, and the underwood belonged to the duke of Grafton by purchase from earl Bathurst, and the crown had only the right of herbage and feed for the deer. The ostensible reasons for inclosing this walk, were the obstacles which the mixture of property and rights opposed to the growth and cultivation of the timber for which the soil was peculiarly adapted, and the advantage which would accrue to the public from a portion of the coppice being appropriated to the crown. The commissioners of inclosure allotted to his Majesty, his heirs and successors "three full fourth parts" of the Whitfield coppices, subject to a deduction to the duke of Grafton for his rights; and "three fourth parts" of the Silveston coppices to the duke of Grafton, subject to a deduction to his Majesty for his forestal rights. Allotments were made to all persons having right of common over this walk in respect of lands in Whitfield, Silveston, Siresham with Crowfield, Wappenham, and Slapton, and to trustees for the poor of the said places in lieu of the right to "sere and broken wood;" and all the remainder of the open plains and ridings, and the whole of the lawns and lodge grounds in the Whitfield division were allotted to his Majesty, and in the Silveston division to the duke of Grafton.

SHOLEBROOK WALK adjoins Hasleborough to the east, and contains 1386a. 3r. 13p. the whole of which are in Whittlebury lordship. There are nineteen coppices containing 1095a. 3r. 7p. but three of them, Blackpitts, Long Hedges, and Porter's Wood, containing about 80a. are only connected with the forest by a narrow neck of land, and to avoid the expense of a proper mound for securing the deer, they are excluded. In this walk is Sholbrook lodge, the genteel official residence of the lieutenant or deputy warden of the forest, but now in the occupation of col. Charles Augustus Fitzroy, eldest son of the late lord Charles Fitzroy.

WAKEFIELD WALK is situated between Sholbrook and Hanger Walks, and contains 1814a. 3r. 28p. of which about 380a. are in Whittlebury; about 635a. in Pottersbury; about 580a. in Passenham and Denshanger; and about 220a. in Lillingston Dayrell in Buckinghamshire. There are twenty coppices containing 1083a. 1r. 24p. In this walk is Wakefield Lodge, the seat of the duke of Grafton, the lord Warden of the forest, and which will be further noticed under the parish of POTTERSBURY.

HANGER WALK contains 513a. 2r. 38p. at the south-east extremity of the connected part of the forest, and is wholly in the parish of Passenham. There are eight coppices containing 456a. 3r. 32p.

SHROB WALK is also in the parish of Passenham, and contains 295a. 2r. 15p. It is nearly a mile distant from any other portion of the forest to the east of Hanger Walk, and is bounded on the north by the Watling street or Chester road adjoining Old Stratford. There are five coppices containing 252a. 3r. 16p. which, as well as every other part of this walk—and this only—are entirely exempt from right of common at all times; and the deer were driven hence to the other walks of the forest by order of the late duke of Grafton, as lord warden, under the authority of the crown. The underwood and timber are consequently more valuable than in any other of the copses. The ring mound has not been kept up with so much care and strength since the removal of the deer, and is liable to frequent depredations from its proximity to the town of Stony Stratford. In this walk is Shrob Lodge, now occupied by the keeper of the walk.

Having shewn the ancient and modern extent of this forest, it remains to trace its officers and government, and to

¹ Eighth Report of Woods and Forests, p. 4.

² Eec. 6 Edw. 1, n. 51.

conclude with some notices of its ancient and present state. The officers of a forest, according to Manwood, are the Lord Warden, Steward, Verderors, Foresters, Regarders, Agistors, and Woodwards; but there may be, and are in some forests, other officers by local custom.

THE LORD WARDEN, or Master Forester of this forest, has the general superintendence and command of the forest and the game. The office of Warden is supposed to have originated with king Henry II. By a charter dated at Silveston, and consequently made whilst he was residing in the forest, that monarch granted to

Broneman his forester, for his faithful services, that tenement of ancient demesne called Pokell [Puxley] with all its appurtenances, situated between the ancient demesne wood of Wackefeld and the fee of Letitia de Ferrers de Passenham, and also that piece of cultivated land of ancient demesne called La Leye, with houses and men and their dependants, and all their chattels, and free ingress and egress in the ancient demesne woods and royal forest of "Wylewod" with all their beasts, and the run of the whole forest for their swine quit and free of pannage, and their dogs free from laving or expeditation, and acquittance from toll in all markets and fairs without let or hindrance, and authority freely to take pannage from his men when the king's agistors took pannage; and further granted to the said Broneman and his heirs, the custody or wardenship of the royal forest of Whitewood in fee with all its appurtenances, and acquittance from shire and hundred courts, rendering to the king and his successors 33s. 4d. yearly.^a From Broneman the wardenship of the forest and Puxley descended hereditarily to

Osbert, son of Broneman^a,

Alan, son of Osbert^a,

Hugh, surnamed le Forester, son of Alan^a,

Hugh le Forester, son of Hugh^a, and

John le Forester, son of Hugh, who, being within age, and in ward to king Edward I.

Elias de Tingewick was appointed custos or warden for life^a.

John de Tingewick, his son, had a similar appointment, and died warden in 32 Edw. I. (1304) when the king granted the office to

Ralph de Gorges for life, to hold in the same manner as his predecessor^a. In 8 Edw. 2 (1314) he petitioned parliament to be restored to the wardenship of Whittelvode forest, to which he had been appointed by the late king, and from which Robert de Harwedon, the *locum tenens* of Hugh le Despencer, justice of the forests within Trent, had removed him. Despencer was ordered to certify to the king the cause of removal^b; and after an interval of seven years, Richard Damory, who had been appointed, was displaced, and Gorges was re-instated^a.

Almaric la Zouch obtained the wardenship for life in 4 Edw. 3 (1330)^c.

Thomas Wake (of BLISWORTH).

Robert Seymour,

Thomas Heath, and

John Ipres successively held the office for life during the same reign^a.

All the above life appointments were made by the crown in consequence of the non-prosecution of the claims of the heirs of John le Forester to the office in fee^a; and it is very remarkable, that though John le Forester in 3 Edw. 3 (1329) defended his right to the privileges in the forest specified in the grant from Henry II, yet he is silent as to the honorable post conferred on his ancestor in the same document^a. This renunciation of, or insensibility to, a dignity which must have been an object of local ambition is now inexplicable. It was, however, claimed by his son, or descendant, Thomas le Forester, to whom, in 21 Edw. 3 (1347) the king confirmed in fee the tenement of the king's demesne called Pokell (Puxley) with the culture of land called Le Leye, and the custody or wardenship of Witelwode forest, with common of pasture for all his beasts and swine in the forest and other liberties, for the rent of 33s. 4d. yearly. But this confirmation was afterwards revoked, and the tenements were held of the king in capite as before^a. The wardenship of the forest was not merely vested in the heirs of the first grantee, but from the construction of the deed was considered to be annexed to the manor of Puxley; for in 46 Edw. 3 (1372)

John Goderych occurs as purchaser of this manor^a, and in 6 Ric. 2 (1383) the king reciting and ratifying the grant to Broneman and all things therein contained, for 5 marks (£3. 6s. 8d.) granted and confirmed the said tenement or manor, and the wardenship of the forest, to John Goderych and his heirs^a. The office was then in possession of sir Thomas Green by demise from Ipres, and he appears to have retained it till 8 Ric. 2 (1385) when it was found by inquisition as above stated, that Ipres and his predecessors from the time of Edward I. had only life interests during the absence of any claim from the representatives of the original grantee^a. 'In the sixteenth of Richard II.'^a

Sir John Chaumbre, who held of the king the tenement called Pokel [Puxley] with the wardenship of the forest of Whitelwood, paid a fine of ten marks for the confirmation of the grant of certain liberties and immunities made by king Henry to Broneman the forester and his heirs.

Sir Thomas Green, of NORTON, acquired the Puxley estate, and died in 5 Hen. 5 (1417) warden of the forest, held of the king in capite by service of paying by the hands of the steward of the forests within Trent 33s. 4d. yearly^a. From the period of the division of the Green estate between the two daughters and coheirs of the last sir Thomas Green, the custody or wardenship of the forest passed by the same title with the manor of Norton till the death of

William Parr, marquis of Northampton, in the reign of Elizabeth, when it reverted to the crown.

Spencer 2nd earl of Northampton was appointed warden for life by king Charles I. and occurs in 1636^b. He was killed at Hopton heath in Mar. 1642-3, and his son

James 3rd earl of Northampton succeeded him in the office for life, but rendering himself obnoxious to the parliament by his adherence to the king, he was superseded by

^a Esc. 8 Ric. 2, r. 72.

^a Orig. 32 Edw. 1, r. 11.

^a Rot. Parl. col. 1, p. 331.

^a Orig. 15 Edw. 2, r. 22.

^a Orig. 4 Edw. 3, r. 34.

^a Quo. War. 3 Edw. 3.

^a Pat. 21 Edw. 3, m. 6.

^a Esc. 46 Edw. 3, p. 2, n. 40.

^a Pat. 16 Jun. 6 Ric. 2, p. 3, m. 4.

^a Esc. 8 Ric. 2, n. 72.

^a Br. 1, p. 310.

^a Rot. Fin. anno 16 Ric. 2, m. 1.

^a Esc. 5 Hen. 5, n. 39.

^b Eighth Report of Forests, &c. p. 38.

Henry 1st earl of Stamford, and his son Thomas lord Grey of Groby, as is proved by the following MS. fragment of a petition in my possession: "Whereas the Earle of Stamford and his sonne Lord Grey deceased [died 1657] were in possession of the Forrest of Whittlebury or Wittlewood in the county of Northampton, and enjoyed the same by the space of seven yeares by order of Parliamt and by graunte under seale from the Committee of the late King's revenue; and the said Forrest was injuriously taken from them, and put into the charge and custody of

John Claypole, some in law to Oliver Cromwell, the late Generall; the Earle of Stamford doth humbly desire that this Hon^{ble} Council should please to re-graunt the said Forrest unto him, in as ample manner as he and his sonne the Lord Grey enjoyed the same, and for the better preservation of the woods there, it is his earnest desire that those Gentlemen formerly named by this Hon^{ble} Council may take care of the same."

The earl of Northampton was re-instated at the restoration of Charles II. and survived till Dec. 1681. In 17 Car. 2 (1665) the forest of Whittlewood was included in the grant to trustees for queen Catherine's jointure^a; as also in the reversionary grant to Henry earl of Arlington for life, remainder to Henry earl of Euston, afterwards duke of Grafton, with divers remainders over^c; and in Jan. 32 Car. 2 (1680-1) the king granted the reversion of the wardenship of the forest, subject to the life of the earl of Northampton, to the said earl of Arlington for life, remainder to the said Henry, then Duke of Grafton, in tail male^d. On the death, however, of the earl of Northampton, instead of the earl of Arlington—who did not die till July 1685—entering into possession, the dowager queen Catherine exercised her right of nomination, and appointed

Lewis (Duras) earl of Feversham, who, on the decease of the queen in 1705, which determined his tenure, refused to surrender the office, contending it had always been held for life, and that the grant under which the duke of Grafton claimed was invalid, as it did not recite that the forest was then in settlement on the queen. The earl continued to enjoy the office during his life; counsel were heard on both sides, but the respective rights of the claimants remained undecided^e. After the death of the earl in 1709,

Charles 2d duke of Grafton, son and heir of duke Henry, who died in 1690, petitioned queen Anne, and his case being referred to, and favourably reported by the attorney general, new letters patent, issued 19 July 11 Anne (1712), reciting the patents of 17 & 32 Car. 2, and ratifying and confirming to him and his heirs male the office of master forester and master of the wild beasts and conies of the forest of Whittlewood, with all privileges and emoluments thereto belonging; specifying the ancient stipends and perquisites of the various officers, and adding the following new regulations: that the allowances of wood to the under foresters and other officers amounting to 231 loads a year, under colour of which great waste was alleged to have been committed, should be abolished, and an allowance in money at the rate of 10s. a load substituted in their stead, to be paid by the surveyor-general out of the produce of dotard and decayed trees; that the crown should have the power of removing any of the under foresters, or other under officers, who should either commit or knowingly permit any waste or destruction of the timber or saplings belonging to the crown; that, under pretence of windfalls claimed by the master forester, no timber or other trees thrown down by tempests or violent winds should be taken, but only dead trees not being timber, and dead and withered branches blown down by ordinary winds; and, that the under foresters and other officers should not lop any other trees for browsewood for the deer than such as had before been lopped, unless by the assignment of the surveyor of the woods with the approbation of the forester^h.

By virtue of this grant, George-Henry the 4th and present duke of Grafton holds the office of lord warden or master forester, which impowers him to appoint the lieutenant or deputy warden and the other officers of the forest during pleasure, and entitles him to the ancient fee of £5 per ann., Wakefield Lodge with its appendages for his residence, and the residue after of the deer answering certain warrants for the supply of his majesty's household and the public offices, or others accustomed to have venison from the royal forests.

THE LIEUTENANT or deputy warden of the forest, and keeper of Sholebrook walk, is lord Charles Fitzroy, second son of the duke of Grafton, who appointed him in 1831, on the death of the hon. general Charles Fitzroy, uncle of the present lord Southampton. As lieutenant he has the superintendence and care of the whole forest under the lord warden, and as keeper of Sholebrook has the particular charge of that walk. He receives a yearly salary of £19. 16s. 8d. as lieutenant, and £30 for salary and allowance for dead wood as keeper, and is entitled to occupy Sholebrook Lodge with about 35 acres of meadow, and a lawn of about 84 acres subject to the deer and common for two head of cattle only, and has certain fees for venison killed in Sholebrook Walk with the profit from the sale of skins and offals, and about twenty-five loads of browsewood for fuel.

STEWARD. In the reign of Henry III. John de Nevill was steward of the forest, and the reserved rents from the foresters in fee were paid through himⁱ. In 7 Edw. 1 (1279) Richard de Holebrok, king's seneschal, was associated with Elias de Tingewick, warden of Whittlewood forest, in the inspection of the king's woods within his bailiwick^k. Whether this forest had then a separate steward is doubtful; the probability is that it was within the jurisdiction as it was within the range of the "forests between the bridges of Oxford and Stamford" to the seneschalship of which this Richard de Holebrok was appointed for three years in 10 Edw. 1 (1282)^l, probably on the expiration of a preceding term. In 21 Edw. 1 (1293) Elias de Hamul had a grant of the seneschalship of these forests during pleasure^m; and the following year, going into Gascony with the king, he procured the transfer of his office to Thomas de Hamulⁿ. In the reign of Henry V. the reserved rent from the warden was paid through the steward of the forests within Trent^o.

^a Pat. 30 Jun. 17 Car. 2, p. 9, n. 1.

^c Pat. 21 Jun. 32 Car. 2, p. 8, n. 8.

^d Pat. 12 Jan. 32 Car. 2.

^e Eighth report of

the forests, p. 37, & MS. memorial.

^h Pat. 19 Jul. 11 Ann.

ⁱ Esc. 6 Edw. 1, n. 51.

^k Orig. 7 Edw. 1, r. 17.

^l Ibid. 10

Edw. 1, r. 2.

^m Ibid. 21 Edw. 1, r. 14.

ⁿ Ibid. 22 Edw. 1, r. 17.

^o Esc. 5 Hen. 5 n. 39.

^p Vide Norton, p. 61.

THE VERDERORS are judicial officers elected by the freeholders of the county by the king's writ, and sworn to maintain the laws of the forest; they received and inrolled the presentments of the courts of attachments, and presided in the swanimote courts; but since the abolition or cessation of the forestal courts, they are honorary rather than efficient officers. There were usually four verderors in each forest; in 20 Edw. 1 (1292) there were five in this forest¹, but they are now, and have been for many years past, reduced to two. They are selected from the gentry of the county, and the present verderors are John Christopher Mansell, of Cosgrave, esq., and the hon. Henry Hely Hutchinson, of Weston by Wedon. They receive no salary, but have severally half an acre of underwood in every coppie whenever it is cut, and a fee buck and doe each early.

THE FORESTERS, or KEEPERS as they are now called, were sworn to preserve the *vert* and *venison*—the former term in forestial phraseology comprehending whatever bears green leaves and can afford covert or food for the deer; and the latter, every beast of forest or of chase—to watch that neither might be injured or destroyed; to attack offenders and trespassers, and to present offences before the verderors at the courts of attachment and of swanimote; and every forester was bound to appear at the justice seat, and when first called, to deliver his horn upon his knees to the chief justice in eyre, and pay a fine for its re-delivery. William the conqueror appointed a forester to take charge of his forests in each county, and it is a singular circumstance that the lands of *Aleyns the hunter* at Abington, Pigh-tesley, or Pytchley, &c. in the time of Edward the confessor, were at the domesday survey² in the hands of Richard [Engaine] and William [Engaine], who may be presumed to have been indebted for the conqueror's gift to their skill in conducting the pleasures of the chase, as one branch of the family held Pytchley by the sergeantry of hunting wolves, foxes, and other vermin; and the branch which has been already treated of under ANINGTON³ had the forestship in fee of this county. In the Liber Niger, or certificate of baronies in 14 Hen. 2 (1167), under the head of Northamptonshire, Fulk Lizures, grandson of Richard Engaine⁴, certified himself to be the king's forester in fee, and bound to attend him personally with horse and arms, and his horn pendant from his neck⁵. In 5 Joh. (1203) the forestship which Hugh Lizures held, was conferred on Hugh Nevill⁶, and it is in this capacity that writs will be found in a subsequent page to have been directed to him to execute the royal commands in this forest⁷. In addition, however, and subordinate to the county forester, each forest had its separate foresters.

Osulf the forester was one of the attesting witnesses to Robert earl of Leicester's foundation charter of Luffield priory⁸ in the reign of Henry I. and that monarch addressed to R. Basset, A. de Vere, and Hugh de Chalian, and all his foresters of Whitelwood, his grant of certain privileges in the forest to the monks of that infant institution⁹. The charter of the empress Maud confirming these privileges was addressed to Vitalis Inganio [Engaine] and William de Lusors¹⁰ [Lizures] the county foresters. *Albericus* or *Aubrey*, the king's forester of Witlebury, confirmed a grant to this priory by his father¹¹, and attested others made by Ralph de Keynes¹², of DODRPOD¹³, which identifies him with the reign of Henry II.

By an inquisition taken in 45 Hen. 3 (1261) it was found that *Wibert le Porter* and *Hugh de Stratford* had held the bailiwick of Witlewode forest in fee farm, but it was then in the king's hands, who could demise it to whom he pleased; and that they had rendered for the forestship yearly 43s. 4d. two quarters of nuts or 4s., thirty geese, and thirty hens, and the bailiwick of the hay of Hanley in the said forest was worth £4 yearly¹⁴. On another inquisition taken at Buckingham in 6 Edw. 1 (1278) before Roger de Clifford, chief justice of the forests, to ascertain what things belonged to the bailiwick of Elias de Tingewick in the forest of Wytteewood, and on what conditions the foresters held it before the king granted to him the bailiwick of the forest and of the park of Hanle, and in what manner he has held it since the grant, the jurors presented that Hugh de Stratford, formerly forester in fee of the bailiwick of Wakefeld, rendered yearly to John de Nevyle, then steward of the forest, two marks and a half (33s. 4d.) for the said bailiwick, and two quarters of nuts for the nuts, in the king's demesne, and thirty geese, thirty hens, and two hundred eggs, and in his time he took from every virgate of land in the village of Deneshangre one quarter of oats for the men having inclosure for their corn and for collecting dead wood for firing in the king's demesne wood, and he took from every house in the said vill one goose and one hen yearly, and gave the men housebote and heybote and inclosure for their corn; he had also the profit of rents in the aforesaid demesne, and had retro-pannage after the feast of St. Martin, and made piggeries where he pleased in the forest, and he took from every virgate of land in the village of Estperr [Potterspury] and Jerdale [Yardley Gobion] one goose, and one hen, and 4d. yearly; and a quarter of oats from West Stratford [Old Stratford], and 12d. from Tornestone [qu. Thornton?] for inclosure and having dead wood as aforesaid; and he used to collect eggs throughout all his bailiwick of Wakefeld, and to have toll for passage throughout his bailiwick, and used to have all the dead wood, and to have all his cattle depasturing throughout his whole bailiwick. *Wibert de Toucestre* [or *le Porter*] rendered 10s. yearly to the said John de Nevyle for the bailiwick of Haselburwe, and had all old oaks for his own use, and if the king gave away any oaks in his bailiwick, the said Wibert had the lops thereof; and he had from every house in the village of Siresham one hen at Christmas and ten eggs at Easter; and one quarter of oats from Stratford and 12d. from Tornestone, and retropannage in his bailiwick, and made piggeries where he pleased in his bailiwick, and took nuts in the king's demesne, and toll for passage in his bailiwick in aid of his farm. And the jurors further presented, that Elias de Tingewick, from the time when the king gave him the said bailiwick had taken toll for passage throughout his whole bailiwick, and dead wood for his own use in the king's woods, and nuts in the same woods except in the park of Hanle, and retropannage after the feast of St. Martin, except in the park of Hanle, and custody of the swine, and lops of the oaks given away by the king in the said forest except in the said park, and a place called La Siche for herbage between Shrobb and Pokesle [Purley], and had the custody of Silveston wood [the Hasleborough coppices in Silveston lordship], and

¹ Esc. 20 Edw. 1, n. 105.

² Domesday, fo. 229.

³ Lib. Nig. 1, p. 214, & 2, p. 637.

⁴ Cart. 5 Joh. n. 20 n. 164.

⁵ Class.

⁶ Hen. 3, &c.

⁷ Luffield Cartulary, fo. 1.

⁸ Ibid. fo. 74.

⁹ Ibid. fo. 82.

¹⁰ Esc. 45 Hen. 3, n. 46.

¹¹ Vide vol. 1, p. 7.

¹² Vide Pedigree, vol. 1, p. 9.

¹³ Vide vol. 1, p. 355.

¹⁴ Ibid. fo. 82.

ought to have it, and as they understood all things which the said Elias had taken belonged to the custody of his bailiwick of the said forest, to pay his said farm, for the said Elias rendered the same farm as the aforesaid foresters, viz. two marks and a half (38s. 4d.) for the bailiwick of Wakefield, and 10s. for the bailiwick of Haselberwe^a. This Elias de Tingewick was also warden of the forest for life, as was his son John de Tingewick. The family cannot be traced beyond his son of the same names in 16 Edw. 2 (1322-3)^b, and there is no evidence of any posterior grant of the forestership *in fee*, or, I believe, of the lord warden having the appointment of the foresters *during pleasure*, prior to the grants from Charles I. In 20 Edw. 1 (1292) besides John de Tingewick, chief forester, there were three horse foresters, and nine foot foresters^b. The distinction of these classes is now unknown, and the present establishment consists of a forester or keeper for each of the four walks, two under or page keepers each for Sholebrook and Wakefield walks, and one page keeper for Hanger and Shrob walks. The salary and perquisites of the keeper of Sholebrook walk have been already stated. The first page keeper has Maggott's Moor Lodge with 7a. of land, £12. 13s. 4d. yearly, and about eight loads of browse wood. The second page keeper has Linshire Lodge with 7a. of land, £12. 13s. 4d. yearly, the heads and necks of the deer killed, with all chance skins and horns, and about eight loads of browse wood; and the commoners of part of Paulerspury, with Heathencote and Lillingston Dayrell, pay an annual acknowledgment of about 20s. called hen-money, which is divided between the keepers of Sholebrook walk. The keeper of Wakefield walk has Wakefield Little Lodge with 6a. of land, certain fees on deer killed, and the profit from the skins and offals, £26 yearly, and about eleven loads of browse wood; and the commoners in Potterspury and Yardley pay him an acknowledgment of about 20s. yearly, called hen-money, collected from house to house. The first page keeper has Gullet Lodge with 5a. of land, £27 yearly for salary and allowance for dead wood, part of a fee doe, and about thirteen loads of browse wood; and the commoners in part of Paulerspury pay him an acknowledgment of about 16s. yearly, collected from house to house, and those in Grafton and Alderton 4s. 6d. each, which is paid by the constable. The second page keeper has Sutfield Lodge, now called Brierley Lodge, with 6a. of land, £12. 13s. 4d. yearly, a share of the heads and necks of the deer killed, the chance skins and horns, and part of a fee doe, and about ten loads of browse wood; and an acknowledgment from the commoners of Wicken of 2s. 4d. yearly paid by the constable. The keeper of Hanger, Walk has Hanger Lodge, and 11a. of land, £25. 16s. 8d. yearly for salary and allowance, certain fees on deer killed, with the profits of the skins and offals, and a fee buck and doe, and about eight or nine loads of browse wood; and a collection called hen-money is made annually at Shrovetide from house to house in the parish of Passenham, adjoining to this walk, amounting to 10s. or 12s. which is divided between the keeper and page keepers, and 2s. 4d. is annually paid by the parishioners of Lillingston Lovell to the keeper. The keeper of Shrob Walk has Shrob Lodge with 19a. of land, £25. 16s. 8d. yearly for salary and allowance, £6. 6s. in lieu of a fee buck and doe, and about seven loads of browse wood. The page keeper of Hanger and Shrob Walks has Brownswood Lodge and 3a. of land, £12. 13s. 4d. yearly, half the heads, horns, and chance skins of the deer killed in Hanger and Wakefield walks, and a piece of venison, and about a load and a half of browse wood. Before the disafforestation of Hasleborough walk in 1824, the keeper had Hasleborough Lodge with 14a. of land, £25. 6s. 8d. yearly for salary and allowance, certain fees on deer killed, with the profit of the skins and offals, and a fee buck and doe, and about twelve loads of browse wood; and the townships of Wappenham and Slapton paid him 2s. each yearly for hen-money, and the townships of Siresham and Crowfield about 15s. yearly, more or less, collected from house to house, and divided between him and the page keeper, who had besides Black hedges Lodge with 6a. of land, £12. 13s. 4d. yearly, the heads and necks of deer killed, and the chance skins, heads, necks, and horns, and about five loads of browse wood. In the allowances for dead wood, the portions of browse wood, and the collections for hen-money, may be seen the modern modifications of some of the above recorded perquisites of the ancient foresters in fee. The corn tribute has sunk into complete desuetude.

THE REGARDERS made a view or *regard* of the whole of the forest every third year, and presented their inquisition at the swanmote court. In 20 Edw. 1 (1292) there were five regarders in this forest^b. These officers, and

THE AGISTORS, who received and accounted at the justice seat of the chief justice in eyre for the agistment or profits arising from the herbage and pannage, probably ceased when the forest courts were discontinued.

THE WOODWARD, as the name implies, has the charge of the woods, and attends with the surveyor general of the woods or his deputy, when any timber is to be cut for the navy or for sale, in order to mark proper trees for those purposes. He is appointed by letters patent during his majesty's pleasure, and receives a salary of £5 yearly, an allowance of £20 yearly in lieu of 12d. in the £ on the sale of dotard and decayed trees formerly received by the woodwards, and he has a fee of 4d. for every tree felled, which is paid by the purchaser.

THE SURVEYOR GENERAL of the woods has in this, as in all the forests, a general superintendence and care of the timber, and the execution of all warrants for felling timber for the navy or for sale, or repairs, or any other works done in the forest at the charge of the crown. His deputy is Mr. Reuben Cape, on whom the executive part of the office devolves.

COURTS. There were three courts incident to, and peculiar to a forest, the court of Attachments or Woodmote, the court of Swanmote or Swainmote; and the Justice Seat, or court of the chief justice in eyre.

THE COURT OF ATTACHMENTS or Woodmote could only inquire, but not convict, where the trespass exceeded 4d. in

^a Esc. 6 Edw. 1, n. 51.

^b Esc. 50 Edw. 1, n. 105.

^c Vide WAPPENHAM, vol. 1, p. 277.

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value. It was kept every forty days when the foresters brought in their attachments for offences against vert and venison, and presented them to the verderors to be enrolled.

THE COURT OF SWANMOTE or Swainmote was held before the verderors as judges three times every year, when the freeholders within the forest attended to make inquests and juries, and the court inquired of offences and convicted also, but did not give judgment, which was reserved for the justice seat. The first court was held fifteen days before Midsummer, for clearing the forest of all animals except deer during the fence month or fawning season. The second was held fifteen days before Michaelmas, when the herbage money for cattle was received, and the swine admitted into the forest to feed on acorns and beech mast called pannage, which was paid for at the third court held in November about Martinmas, when the forest was again cleared, and no animals, except deer, admitted from the 12th of November till the 5th of April (O. S.) which period was called the winter haining. The Swanmote court used to be held at the corner of Paulerspury park at a place called the *Benches* within the forest, and was generally adjourned to Whittlebury.

THE JUSTICE SEAT, or court of the lord chief justice in eyre, was a court of record, and had authority to hear and determine all trespasses, pleas, and causes of the forest, as well concerning vert and venison as all other causes whatever, but could not be kept oftener than every third year. The last justice in eyre's seat for this forest was held by the earl of Holland in 1636⁴; and there are no proceedings of the two inferior courts extant of a later date.

PRISON. There was a common prison for the forests of Salecy and Whittlewood at Hartwell-Wyke—a tolerably central situation—and a gaoler in fee, as appears by an inquisition in 18 Edw. 1 (1280) when the jury presented that the king's justices had taken the bailiwick of *John de Waleys*, together with a certain messuage in Wyke-Hertwell, as pertaining to the said bailiwick, into the king's hands for transgressions committed by him in the forest of Salecy, and delivered the bailiwick and messuage to the custody of William de la Rue, who permitted the said John to inhabit it on account of his poverty; and afterwards the justices removed the said William, and delivered the custody of the said bailiwick and messuage to William Thobrisse, who in like manner permitted the said John to inhabit the messuage till his death, and no other person was seised of the said bailiwick and messuage after they were taken into the king's hands; and the jurors further presented, that the ancestors of the said John were enfeoffed of the said bailiwick and messuage by the ancestors of the present king by the annual payment of half a mark at the king's exchequer, and were also enfeoffed of the custody of the prison of Salecy and Whittlewood forests in fee, and that in times past that messuage belonged to the bailiwick, and was worth 5s. yearly, and with thecroft adjoining contained two acres⁵.

ANCIENT AND MODERN STATE, &c. The officers and courts thus briefly sketched, and the laws for the administration of which they were created, constituted the essential distinction between a forest and a chase; and the animals thus placed under the king's protection "for his princely delight" were classed into beasts of the forest or venery—the hart, the hind, and the hare; beasts of the chase—the buck, the doe, the fox, and the cat; and beasts and fowls of warren—the hare, the rabbit, the pheasant, and the partridge. No one was allowed to hunt in the forest but the king, except by special warrant, of which several instances are on record. In 7 Hen. 3 (1223) the king addressed a writ to this effect to Hugh de Nevill—the forester in fee for the county—"We have given licence to Fulk de Breant to run with his dogs at the bucks this season in your bailiwick in the county of Northampton, and therefore we command you to permit him"; and in 39 Hen. 3 (1255) the king granted to Philip Lovell⁶ for life, free pasture for all his beasts in the forests of Salecy and Witlewode, and piggeries where he should think fit in the said forests except in the king's preserve; and three oaks every year for firing, to be taken where it would be to the least damage of the forest; and licence to hunt foxes, hares, and cats in the said forests whenever he pleased, except in the forbidden month or fawning season, viz. fifteen days before the feast of St. John the baptist and fifteen days after⁷. The neighbouring parks were sometimes supplied with deer from the forests. In 7 Hen. 3 (1222) the king gave Ralph Hareng two bucks and ten does out of Whittlewood to put in his park at Westbury⁸ in Buckinghamshire near Brackley.

This forest was one of the favorite hunting resorts of our early monarchs, who had a palace at Silveston, where they resided on those occasions. The site is still traditionally denoted by the name of King's Hill coppice in the Silveston portion of Hasleborough Walk; and the lord of Whitfield⁹, in which parish the other portion is locally situated, held that manor by the sergeantry of providing a hound for the king whenever he should personally come to hunt the hart and the hind, the buck and the doe, in his forest of Whittlewood¹. Among the many curious and interesting illustrations of ancient manners furnished by the first volume of the Close Rolls, recently published by the record commission, may be numbered the minute details of the management, and of the removal of the royal hawks and hounds to different parts of the kingdom. It was doubtless on quitting Whittlewood, and perhaps Salecy forest, after an hunting excursion, that king John in Sept. 1213, issued the following orders for disposing of the six packs of hounds which had been ministering to his pleasures: "The king to E. [Emeric], archdeacon of Durham, and Philip de Ulecote. We send to you Richard de Brademer our huntsman with two horses, one "bernario" [qu? Whipper in], two pages, and twenty-four hounds de *mota*, or kennell hounds; and John de Ridlay with two horses, one "bernario," two pages and sixteen hounds de *mota* to run in your bailiwick as we have directed them; and we command you to find them what is necessary whilst they are in your bailiwick by our writ, and let them have reasonable expenses for

¹ Eighth Report of Woods, &c. p. 38.

² Esc. 18 Edw. 1, n. 115.

³ Claus. 16 Jun. 7 Hen. 3.

⁴ Pat. 39 Hen. 3, m. 9.

⁵ Claus. 7 Nov. 7 Hen. 3.

⁶ Test. Nev. fo. 125.

⁷ Vide PLUMPTON IN PAULERSPURY.

⁸ Vide vol. 1, p. 750.

six days from Northampton to Durham, and it shall be allowed you at the exchequer, and because our great seal is not with us we have sealed these letters with our private seal. Dated at Northampton, 26 Sept. 15 Joh.^k A similar order was directed to Gilbert, son of Reinfrid, to receive Edmund de Sutton, the huntsman, with two horses, two pages, one "bernario," and one "veltrario"—or foot huntsman to let slip the greyhounds—and thirty hounds, and four greyhounds; and to allow reasonable expenses for six days from Northampton to York. Dated at Northampton, 27 Sept. 16 Joh.^l No difference, it will be observed, is made in the allowance for travelling to York or to Durham, though the distance is much greater, and the road expenses are altogether omitted in the succeeding orders given from Newport (Pagnell) the same day to the sheriff of Nottinghamshire to receive Ralph de Erlham with four pages, three horses and four greyhounds^m; and to Henry de Braybroc to receive Robert de Kersey with twenty-two hounds, one horse and three pagesⁿ, and the roan-coloured horse of Warin de Munchensi with his groom, and six hounds, and four greyhounds. In Nov. 6 Hen. 3 (1221) the king apprised Hugh de Nevill that he had sent to the forests in Northamptonshire Mast. H. the huntsman, with sixteen hounds to run at deer, and Richard de Brademar, the huntsman, with sixteen hounds to run at hinds, and commanded him to permit them to hunt in his bailiwick^p; and the sheriff of the county was directed to pay them 40s. for their expenses, and it should be allowed him at the exchequer^q. Centuries have elapsed since Whittlewood forest was the scene of royal diversions. Stag, and even deer hunting, have long since ceased; but the forest still resounds "with the hound and horn" of the fox-hunting establishment of the duke of Grafton, appropriately clad in *forest green* instead of the more fashionable and almost exclusive scarlet. "The hart and the hind" are now extinct in this forest, but there are computed to be about 3000 head of deer which have the range of the whole forest except the three coppices north of Sholebrook Lodge and Shrob Walk, from which they were removed by the late duke of Grafton. The number killed annually on an average is about 138 bucks, and 100 deer. The deer in Hasleborough Walk to the number of about were destroyed at the time of disafforestation.

No timber was felled in the forest for the king's use under the old forest laws without the view of the officers of the forest. In 6 Hen. 3 (1222) Hugh de Nevill, chief forester of the county, was commanded by view of the foresters and verderors of Salecto (Salesey forest) and Pokesale wood to let Fulk de Breant have necessary building timber to repair the gaol in the king's castle at Northampton^r; and 13 Edw. 1 (1285) John de Tingewick, chief forester of Whittlewood, was commanded to fell twelve oaks in Hanley park, which was within the said forest, to the use of Richard de Holebrook, constable of the king's castle at Rockingham P. The timber is now under the superintendence of the surveyor general of the woods and forests and his deputy. Nor could the proprietors of woods within the forest bounds cut down trees on their own freehold without view of the forest officers. In 20 Edw. 1 (1292) it was found on an inquisition at Stony Stratford before Simon de Ellesworth, *locum tenens* of the justice of the forests within Trent, by John de Tingewick, chief forester of Whittlewood forest, three horse foresters, nine foot foresters, five verderors, and five agisters of the said forest, and twelve free and legal men of the country, that it would not be to the damage of the king if he granted licence to Robert de Pinkeney to fell oaks and other trees to the value of £40 in his wood of Wappenham, which was within the bounds of the said forest; that the wood was four miles in circuit, well covered with underwood, and that in the trenches and outskirts he might fell timber to the above amount, without detriment to the king's beasts of chase in the forest^s. The wood here referred to is now called Prestaby wood, and was recovered from the forest by the perambulation six years afterwards. Grants of timber out of the forest for building and repairs were not unfrequent in early times to the neighbouring barons and gentilitia families. In 7 Joh. (1205-6) Hugh de Nevill was commanded to provide R. [Ranulph], earl of Chester, out of the woods of Salesey and Pokel [Puxley], timber for making a chamber at Alneia^t [Olney in Buckinghamshire]. In 4 Hen. 3 (1220) he was ordered to supply William de Cantelupe senior with fifty joists or rafters out of the woods of Pokeslegh and Shirope [Shrob], to repair his house at Eytou^u. In Dec. 8 Hen. 3 (1223) he was directed to let the abbot of St. James have twenty joists or rafters out of the woods of Pokeslescrob [Puxley and Shrob] to re-build his houses which had been lately burnt^v; and in Apr. 8 Hen. 3 (1224) to permit William Briwer or Bruere to have twenty couplebeams of oak out of Poghele [Puxley] and Srubbe [Shrob] to rebuild his houses at Blidewart^w [Blisworth]. Estovers or allowances of wood for housebote or fuel, and for haybote and ploughbote, or hedge and plough repairs, were allowed to the lord of Whitfield out of Hasleborough walk by an inquisition *ad q. d.* in 9 Edw. 2 (1315)^x; and a compensation was given for this privilege to the provost and fellows of Worcester college, Oxford, as lords of that manor, on the disafforestation of the walk.

COMMONS. Afforestation did not abridge or prejudice the previous right to common. Eighteen parishes and townships have immemorially enjoyed the privilege of common of pasture throughout this forest, except Shrob walk, and the lawns and other inclosed grounds, which are wholly exempt, and the coppices are partially so, being commonable, but inclosed for nine years after each cutting of the underwood, and then thrown open to the deer and cattle for twelve years. Whittlebury, Potterspury with Yardley Gobion, Passenham with Denshanger, Whitfield, and Silveston, are called *in towns*; and the remaining eleven, Paulerspury with Heathencote, Alderton, Grafton Regis, Wicken, Lillingston Lovell in Oxfordshire, Lillingston Dayrell in Buckinghamshire, Siresham with Crowfield, Wappenham, and Slapton are called *out towns*. All the parishes within which the forest is locally situated are included in the former class, except Lillingston Dayrell. The latter class were embraced in its limits anterior to the perambulations. The exclusion of Norton, the parent of Whittlebury, is remarkable, and the omission of Towcester, from its proximity and connection with Hanley, is scarcely less inexplicable. The *in towns* of Whitfield and Silveston, and the *out towns* of Siresham with Crowfield, Wappenham, and Slapton had allotments of land in lieu of their rights of common in the forest at the disafforestation of Hasleborough walk. Though the crown may keep an unlimited number of deer, and the commoners are entitled only to the surplus herbage, yet they enjoy their right without stint for horned cattle and

^k Class. 26 Sept. 15 Joh.

^l Ibid. 27 Sept. 15 Joh.

^m Class. 27 Sept. 15 Joh.

ⁿ Ibid. 23 Nov. 6 Hen. 3.

^p Ibid. 29 June

6 Hen. 3. ^q Hutton MSS. A. A.

^r Esc. 20 Edw. 1, n. 105.

Class. 14 Mar. 7 Joh.

^s Ibid. 26 July 4 Hen. 3.

^t Ibid. 27

Dec. 8 Hen. 3.

^u Class. 24 Apr. 8 Hen. 3.

^v Inq. ad q. d. 9 Edw. 2, n. 192.

horses. Goats, sheep, swine, and geese are said not to be commonable on a forest; but in the reign of Henry III. the men of Silveston complaining that Hugh Nevill would not allow them to have their goats in the forest, as they were accustomed, and without which they could not procure a livelihood, the king commanded him to let them have pasture for them where he thought the most fit in clear woods, and so as to do the least damage to the forest.⁷ In 17 Edw. 3 (1343) the king granted to Anthony de Lucy and his tenants at Radston, common of pasture in Whittlewood forest for all their beasts during the life of the said Anthony.⁸ The ancient foresters, it has been seen*, had pannage for their swine, and the lord of Whitfield had pannage in Hasleborough walk.

The *in* towns depasture their cattle from Lady day O. S. (April 5) till All Saints' day O. S. (November 12), and the *out* towns from St. George's day O. S. (May 4) to Holyrood day O. S. (September 25). The cattle have not been turned out for the fence month since the discontinuance of the Swainmote court, and the winter haining is not attended to by some of the *in* towns. Each town has a particular gate and riding into the forest called its stallage, as Pury stallage, &c. and a separate watering place for its cattle, which it is bound to keep in order; and there is a tradition that Leckhampstead in Buckinghamshire incurred a forfeiture of its right of common for neglecting its watering place more than twenty years. The number of cattle turned in by the commoners in 1791 was eight hundred and eighty-nine. To prevent imposition the forest is driven every year by one of the verderors and the keepers, when the cattle which are commonable and branded pay 1d. for the drift; those commonable and not branded pay 4d. for branding and 1d. for the drift; and when any cattle are found belong to strangers who have no right of common a fine of 10s. a head is put on each beast, which with the drift money is divided between the keepers of the walks where the drift is made.

The poor inhabitants of Whitfield, Silveston, Siresham with Crowfield, Wappenham, and Slapton claimed a right to gather sere and broken wood in the forest two days in every week, in lieu of which, allotments of land were made to the rectors, churchwardens, and overseers of the respective parishes in trust, at the disafforestation of Hasleborough walk.

The forest of Whittlewood or Whittlebury was made parcel of the honor of Grafton on its first erection by act of parliament in 33 Henry VIII.⁴; and by the same grant as Norton† this forest was settled in 17 Car. 2 (1665) on the trustees of queen Catherine for her life, as part of her jointure, reserving all the timber trees and saplings for the use of the crown^b. By the same reversionary grant also as Norton† in 25 Car. 2 (1673) all the several coppices and woods in the forest except the seven coppices in the Silveston portion of Hasleborough walk, which were previously alienated, and "excepting to the crown all great trees and timber trees, and all oak saplings growing or to grow in the said coppices, woods, underwoods, and woodlands, to be reserved or left on the same for stables or samplers, and which shall seem most fit and proper for timber, according to the form of the statute in that case made and provided, and also all the fairest stables or samplers of oak, ash, elm, or beech, in or upon the said coppices, woods, &c. growing, coming, happening, or arising, and also excepting and reserving all the herbage and pannage of the same"^c have descended to George Henry the 4th duke of Grafton, the present proprietor (1834). The seven Silveston coppices, timber trees as well as underwood, are now vested in the duke, but were disafforested in 1824 as part of Hasleborough walk.

The underwood is cut at twenty-one years growth, and the aggregate coppices are divided into *that* number of parts or sales, so that a regular rotation in cutting takes place every year. On each cutting of the underwood, which consists principally of black and white thorn, ash, willow, maple, and a small proportion of hazel, the coppices are inclosed with a strong hedge and ditch at the expence of the duke, except where they form part of the outward boundary of the forest, in which cases they are fenced with posts and rails by the crown. The inclosure is continued nine years to protect the underwood and saplings from injury, and they must by prescription be thrown open to admit the deer and common cattle for twelve years; except those in Shrob walk, which are kept constantly inclosed.

By a survey in 1608 of the timber wood belonging to the crown, this forest was found to contain 51,046 timber oaks, averaging about a load of timber each, and valued at £25,755; and 360 decaying trees, valued at £123. 6s. 8d. A deduction being made for the seven Silveston coppices in Hasleborough walk, which was then in possession of the crown, there will remain 45,568 trees, as the number growing on the lands in which the crown is still entitled to the timber—a number not greater than might be expected to grow under proper management on such an extent of woodland of a soil so favorable for timber; for, as the coppices contain 3447 acres, if 191 trees of 30ft. and upwards are supposed to have been standing on the lawns and open parts of the forest in 1608, as were reported to be growing on them by a survey in 1783, and that the remaining number grew in the coppices, the mean average would not be more than thirteen trees to an acre.

There are no documents extant to shew what timber was felled in this forest between the survey of 1608 and the restoration of Charles II.; but, besides what was felled for repairs and other purposes, a warrant was issued in Mar. 1668 for felling 1000 trees for the navy, and it was certified that though considerable quantities of timber had been felled there by the late lord treasurer's order, yet the forest was so well stored, that 1000 trees might be spared without defacing the same; in Feb. 1674 an order was made for felling 120 tons of timber in this forest, for repairing the lodge in Woodstock park; in Jan. 1682 there was a warrant for felling 300 trees for the navy; in May 1682 a warrant for raising £2000 in Whittlewood and Salecy forests by sale of trees not fit for the navy, it having been lately certified that over and above the trees useful for the navy, there were a great number of coarse trees, by sale whereof his majesty might raise for some time the yearly sum of £2000 without prejudice to the thriving timber trees, which in some parts of the forest were so thick as to be hurtful to one another; in May 1684 a warrant for raising £12,000 for the use of the earl of Arlington by sale of such coarse trees in Whittlebury and Salecy forests not fit for the navy, as

⁷ Claus. 14 Hen. 3, m. 18.

⁸ Pat. 17 Edw. 3, p. 1, m. 30.

^a Stat. 33 Hen. 8, c. 38.

^b Pat. 30 Jun. 17 Car. 2, p. 9, n. 1.

^c Pat. 21 Jun. 25 Car. 2, p. 8, n. 8.

* Vide p. 80.

† Vide p. 61.

might be cut without defacing the same; the sales not to exceed £3000 the first year, nor £2000 in any subsequent year, to avoid felling the timber at under rates; in April 1690, a warrant for raising £1000 a year in Whittlewood forest, for so long a time as it could be done without prejudice to the forest, by sale of pollard and decayed trees, fit only for country uses, of which there were reported to be such quantities, that it would be for their majesty's service to cause sales to be made thereof, not exceeding £1,000 annually; and in April 1693 a warrant for raising any sum not exceeding £500 *per ann.* or £5000 in the whole, by sale of such coarse timber trees, not fit for the navy, in Whittlewood and Salecy forests, as might be felled without defacing the same, to be paid to the duchess of Grafton, sole heiress of Henry late earl of Arlington, in part of the sum of £12,000, formerly directed to be raised for the use of the said earl, whereof £2000 was raised and paid to him as before mentioned. The commissioners then proceeded to state what profit has arisen to the crown from the reservation of the timber, and what has been the expense of salaries and allowances to the forest officers, and of repairs and other works there. From the treasury warrants and the accounts of the surveyors general of the woods, it appears that the whole produce of the timber felled in the forest from the death of the queen dowager Catherine in 1705 to the end of 1786, including the value of 480 loads taken for works at Blenheim, but exclusive of what was felled for the navy, amounted to £37,026. 15s. 6d. and the payments for salaries of the forest officers, for repairs of lodges and other works in the forest, expenses attending the sales, fees, poundage to officers, and other incidental charges were £38,379. 16s. 10½d. so that the charges sustained by the crown on account of the forest from 1705 to 1786 exceeded the whole of its produce except the navy timber, by the sum of £1,353. 1s. 4½d. The timber felled for the navy in this forest from 1772 (the earliest fall since 1705) to 1786 netted £7,648. 9s. 1d. and from 1786 to 1790 £6,053. 10s. 2d. making together £13,701. 19s. 3d. from which being deducted the before-mentioned deficit of £1,353. 1s. 4½d. the remainder £12,348. 17s. 10½d. shews that the clear produce to the crown from the death of the queen dowager Catherine in 1705 to 1790 was only on an average about £145. 5s. 7d. a year!

Primarily, the sovereign was the sole proprietor of this forest, but a mixture of extraneous rights has grown up, leaving the crown little more than a nominal interest beyond the timber trees and saplings, to which it is entitled not only in the coppices, but in the ridings, plains, lawns, and inclosed lands held by the officers of the forest. The soil indeed belongs to the crown, but subject to the right of common over it by eighteen parishes and townships, and to the growth of the underwood which is the property of the duke of Grafton: and the deer also belong to the crown, but after the supply of the customary warrants and the fee deer to particular officers, the duke of Grafton, as lord warden, has the uncontrolled disposal of them. By the survey of this forest in 1783 there was reported to be growing 5211 trees fit for the navy containing 7,230 loads of timber, square measure, and 402 "scrubbed, shaken, dotard, and decayed" trees of 30ft. and upwards containing 569 loads. The same survey states that there were 18,617 trees, in the forest constantly lopped for browse for the deer, viz. 6335 oak trees computed to contain 8907 loads of timber square measure—being more than a load and a quarter each on an average—and 12,282 ash trees containing 23,512 loads; so that the number and contents of the browsed oaks was greater than of the oak trees reported to be fit for the navy, of which the number in the coppices was not quite three trees to every two acres of land. Between the years 1772 and 1783 there had been felled for the navy 1461 trees producing 1335 loads; if these be added to the trees of 30ft. and upwards, growing in the coppices at the time of the survey, the number would still be less than two trees to every acre; and if the browse oaks be taken into the computation, the whole number of the trees of 30ft. and upwards would be little more than three trees to an acre.

The commissioners appointed to inquire into the state of the woods and forests, from whose report of this forest in 1792 the preceding statements are abstracted, observe, "that this extraordinary diminution in the quantity of the timber compared with what was growing in 1608, must not, however, be supposed to have been occasioned by any waste of the property of the crown on the part of the grantee; for justice obliges us to remark, from the best information, that the number of the browse oaks has not been increased within memory, but rather decreased by the felling of decayed and worn out trees; that the greatest care is taken by the duke of Grafton to preserve the oak saplings from being injured by the persons employed to cut the underwood; and that there is no other forest in which the crown has granted rights of the same kind, either for a term of years, or in perpetuity, in which the timber and saplings have been so well protected as in the forests of Whittlewood and Salecy. But, as greater care not to injure what belongs to the crown cannot be expected from any grantee, we consider the present state of this forest to be an additional proof of the justice of what we have frequently had occasion to remark in other reports, that no property in which there is a mixture of rights and a divided management, can ever be as productive as if the entire interest and direction were vested in one proprietor; and that the share of the property in the royal forests which belongs to the crown, has during the present [late] century been under a most wasteful and destructive course of management."

Not only is the present system of management adverse to the improvement of the crown property, but the mixture of rights and consequent conflicting interests operate as insuperable bars to the adoption of the most effective measures for the increase and preservation of the timber. To remedy these evils, the commissioners submitted two plans to the consideration of the legislature; the one, to transfer the rights of the crown in the timber, the soil, and the deer to the duke of Grafton on fair and reasonable terms, and to enter into a new arrangement with the commoners; the other to introduce a more efficient management under the direction of a properly constituted and responsible office of forests. If neither of these plans were adopted, and in preference to either, they recommended a complete division of the forest, by which the crown, the duke of Grafton, and the commoners, might each receive a separate share as an equivalent for their present interests. This last suggestion was warmly advocated in Pitt's agricultural survey of this county, published in 1809, and partially carried into effect in 1824, by the disafforestation of Hasleborough walk.

The soil of Whittlebury forest is in general a moist grey loam, peculiarly adapted to the growth of timber. Though this forest cannot boast of the picturesque beauties of the New forest in Hampshire, and has been despoiled of many

of its ancient sylvan treasures, the lover of wild woodland scenery will find ample attractions in the intermingling charms of its majestic trees, its luxuriant and sunless thickets, its opening glades, and its green alleys branching out in every direction, and enlivened with pasturing cattle and gay troops of deer. Here may he exclaim

"I could rove
At morn, at noon, at eve, by lunar ray
In each returning season through your shades,
Ye reverend woods! could visit every dell,
Each hill, each breezy lawn, and wandering brook,
And bid the world admire."

SILVESTON,

or Silveston, commonly pronounced Silson, is an evident corruption of *silva tone*, or the wood town, which is strikingly characteristic of its situation in the midst of the forest.

It is a parochial chapelry to Greens Norton, and a member of Whittlebury, containing inclusive of old inclosures and the woods formerly part of Hasleborough walk about 1790 acres. The lands "within the liberties or precincts of Silston, otherwise Silverston, otherwise Silveston Burnham," were inclosed under the same act of parliament as Hasleborough walk in 5 Geo. 4 (1824). About 506 acres, including the woodlands, belong to George Henry duke of Grafton, lord of the manor; about 360 acres to Charles lord Southampton; about 180 acres to Mr. Edward Amos; about 140 acres including the Luffield lands, to Richard duke of Buckingham and Chandos, K. G.; and about 127 acres including Monkswood, to John Jackson Blencowe, of Marston St. Lawrence, esq.

Silveston is bounded on the north by Towcester, and north-east by Wood Barcote in the same parish and hundred; east by Whittlebury and the forest, and south-east by the forest and Lillingston Lovell in Oxfordshire; south by the forest and by Luffield and Lillingston Dayrell in Buckinghamshire, and south-west by the portion of Hasleborough walk now disafforested in Whitfield parish and Sutton hundred; west by Abthorp, and north-west by Hanley park in the parish and hundred of Towcester. The soil is in general a strong loam, and except the woodlands, which extend to near 600 acres, the lordship is principally in tillage.

MANORIAL HISTORY. "Silvestone" in the Saxon era, and after the Norman conquest, was compounded of three fees.

MORETON FEE^a. The Saxon freehold of *Leuric*† in "Silvestone" rated at 10s. yearly, was doubled in value at the domesday survey, and held by *William* ancestor of Keynes‡ under the earl of Moreton. It contained one hide. The arable land was three carucates, of which one was in demesne with a servant^b.

PINKENEY FEE. The Saxon freehold of *Seward* in "Selvestone," valued only at 2s. yearly, but raised to 5s. at the domesday survey, was then held by one *Godwin* under Ghilo, brother of Ansculf, the ancestor of the Pinkeneys. It contained half a hide. The arable land was one carucate, in the occupation of two villeins. There was three acres of meadow, and a wood eleven quarentines or furlongs long and six wide, but the fourth part of the wood only belonged to this land^c.

MANDEVILLE FEE^d. The third Saxon freehold in "Silvestone" belonged to *Asgar*§, the whole of whose possessions were bestowed by the Norman conqueror on Geoffrey de Manneville or Mandeville. His estate in this vill consisted of half a hide, rated at 10s. yearly, but doubled in value at the domesday survey when it was held by *Erwald* under Geoffrey. The arable land was one carucate, with two servants, one villein, and one bordar^e.

In the hydariam of Hen. 2, William de Keynes was certified to hold a hide in Silveston of the fee of Moreton; Henry de Pinkeneý half a hide (of the fee of Ansculf); and Otner half a hide of the fee of earl William^f, Mandeville, earl of Essex. These estates correspond with the domesday entries; but the different fees cannot be subsequently identified in the mesne estates; nor can the knight's fee in Silveston held by the Mortimer family^g, be appropriated.

BURNHAM ABBEY MANOR. "In the nineteenth year of Henry II. the manor of Silveston was in the hands of the king;† and from this time forward was accounted to be held in ancient demesne." In 6 Ric. (1194) the sheriff of the county rendered an account of £6 for the yearly farm of Silveston^h. In 7 Joh. (1205) Geoffrey Fitz-Peter, the sheriff,

^a Domesday, fo. 223 b.

^b Ibid. fo. 227.

^c Ibid. fo. 227 b.

^d Cotton, MSS. Vesp. E. xxi. fo. 95 b.

^e Esc. 32 Edw. 1.

n. 90, & 34 Edw. 3, n. 86.

^f Br. 1, p. 244, 'Lib. Rub. Major in Off. Remem. Reg. in Scaccar. fo. 201 a.'

^g Ibid. 'Trin. Brev. anno

29 Edw. 1 & Pat. anno 15 Ric. 2, p. 1, m. 7, inter MSS. Hatton.'

^h Pp. 6 Ric. m. 10.

ⁱ Vide BOGROOK, vol. 1, p. 120.

[†] Vide WATSON, vol. 1, p. 461.

[‡] Vide DODFORD, vol. 1, p. 350.

[§] Vide AYNCO, vol. 1, p. 543.

paid into the exchequer £6 for the farm of Silveston for the fourth year of this reign, and the men of Silveston rendered 2 marks (£1. 6s. 8d.) to the tallage set on the king's demesnes¹. In 1 Hen. 3 (1216-7) the king commanded Falk de Breat to permit Joudowin de Dou without delay to have the manors of Geddington and Silveston to hold by what farm, or rent they were worth; he had been positively informed that the utmost value of Geddington was £20 yearly, and Silveston £6, but if they were underrated, Falk was ordered to deliver them to Joudowin, as the king doubted not he would faithfully satisfy him for the overplus; and in 3 Hen. 3 (1218) the barons of the exchequer were directed to allow to the said Falk amongst other things £6, which Geldewin de Doe had in the manor of Silveston by the king's writ². In 56 Hen. 3 (1271) the treasurer and barons of the exchequer, with the assent of the king's council, committed the manor of Silveston to Thomas del Brok, Henry Wade, and the king's other tenants there, to hold during the king's pleasure, rendering £14 yearly, and the king's houses to be kept in repair at his own proper cost³. In 10 Edw. 1 (1282) this manor was placed in the custody of Richard de Holebrok, the steward of the Northamptonshire forests⁴. In 7 Edw. 2 (1313) the king granted the manors of Brehull or Brill in Buckinghamshire, Claverley in Shropshire, Tattenhall in Staffordshire, and Silveston, to

Richard de Arundel for life⁵, who, dying the following year, they reverted to the crown, and in 9 Edw. 2 (1315) the king was lord of Silveston⁶. In May the succeeding year the king gave this manor, then worth £13 yearly, together with the manor of Brill, to

Sir Richard Lovell and *Muriel* his wife, in exchange for the manor of Bradenach in Devonshire, which he held by grant from the king in part of the value of the manor of Old Rokesburgh [Roxburgh in Scotland] which the king retained for the munition of Rokesburgh castle, and which manors he held at the will of the king until he should make him compensation in lands of equal value⁷. In 3 Edw. 3 (1329) he was summoned by writ of *quo warranto* to shew by what right he claimed view of frank pledge, correction of assize of bread and beer, amerciaments for lue and cry and blodewite, and acknowledgment of pleas of all his tenants by small writs of right according to the custom of the manor, when he pleaded his charter from the king's father. The king's attorney replied, that in the king's grant no mention was made of the privileges claimed. The defendant appealed to the chancery rolls, and the chancellor was directed to examine them. At the day appointed the chancellor reported that the chancery rolls for the 10th of Edw. 2 were in the king's treasury in the tower of London, so that he had not been able to execute the writ, and a further day was given⁸. *Muriel*, wife of *sir Richard Lovell*, was daughter of William first earl of Douglas in Scotland⁹. He had the barony of Kary in Somersetshire, and was summoned to parliament from 22 to 24 Edw. 3¹⁰. He died in Jan. 25 Edw. 3 (1351)¹¹, but had previously relinquished his interest in this manor, probably in obtaining an equivalent elsewhere. In 11 Edw. 3 (1337) the king granted the manor of Brill by the service of one fee, and the manor of John by the accustomed service, to

Sir John Molins in fee¹²; and the same year *sir Richard Lovell* released to him all his right in those manors¹³. In 12 Edw. 3 (1338) *sir John Molins* had a grant in fee of the advowson of Burnham abbey in Buckinghamshire¹⁴, and with the king's licence gave the manor of Silveston to the abbess and convent¹⁵, who the same year obtained an acquittance from tallage for their tenants in Silveston, in Fulmere, Buckinghamshire, and in London¹⁶.

In 43 Edw. 3 (1369) *sir Henry Green* died seized of a messuage and seven virgates of land in Silveston and Whittlebury held of the abbess of Burnham¹⁷; and which seven virgates in the inquisition on the death of his son *sir Thomas Green* are called a carucate of land¹⁸. The manor of "Silveston Burnham, parcel of the late abbey of Burnham," was, with the manor of Silveston Luffield, granted in 5 Edw. 6 (1551) to

*Sir Nicholas Throckmorton*¹⁹, of PAULERSPURY. His son and heir *Sir Arthur Throckmorton* left four daughters and coheirresses, the eldest of whom,

Mary, wife of Thomas lord Wotton, "in the eleventh year of *Charles I.* claimed common of pasture in the forest of *Whittlewood* with view of frank pledge and waif, in right of her manor of *Silveston*." On her decease this manor passed to her fourth and youngest daughter and coheirress

Anne, wife of *sir Edward Hales*, of Woodchurch in Kent, 2d bart. whose son *sir Edward Hales*, 3d bart. sold it prior to 1687²⁰ to

Sir Benjamin Bathurst, of PAULERSPURY, of whose lineal descendant *Henry* 3d earl Bathurst, it was purchased in 1800 by

Augustus Henry 3d duke of Grafton, K. G. father of *George Henry* 4th duke of Grafton, the present proprietor (1834).

A copyhold court is held for this manor, which extends into Whittlebury. A feme covert may surrender without her husband's consent, but free bench or dower does not attach to lands alienated by the husband. The fines payable on alienation are always one year's rent. In all other respects the lands are of the same tenure as freeholds.

LUFFIELD PRIORY MANOR. *Richard*, son of *Elias* de Hinton [near Brackley], gave to the monks of Luffield all his lands in Silveston of the fee of Towcester, rendering 9s. yearly, viz. 7s. in his name to the lord of Towcester, and 2s. to Robert de Botlind, which his father *Elias* gave him in free marriage with his daughter Hucine²¹. *Henry* de Hinton confirmed his father's grant²²; and in 29 Hen. 3 (1245) released to William [de Brakel], prior of Luffield, by fine, the service which *Warin* de Munchensy [lord of Towcester], claimed for lands in Silveston²³. *Henry* de Hinton, son of *sir Henry* de Hinton, added his wood called Hynewood, with land and pasture between the king's wood and the wood of the hospital of Brackley, and abutting on the lawn of Luffield²⁴. The above named *Richard* de

¹ Pp. 7 Joh.

Edw. 1, r. 2.

No. 37, r. 1.

Edw. 3, n. 25.

15 Edw. 3, p. 1, m. 24.

Edw. 6, p. 3.

fo. 34.

² Clause. 1 Feb. 1 Hen. 3.

* Orig. 7 Edw. 2, r. 9.

* Ibid. 8 Edw. 2, r. 13.

* Quo. Warr. 3 Edw. 3.

* Pat. 11 Edw. 3, m. 12.

* Pat. 12 Edw. 3, m. 29.

* Br. 1, p. 245. * Placit. Forest.

* Hinton MSS. * Plac. 29 Hen. 3.

³ Ibid. 2 Nov. 3 Hen. 3.

* Ibid. 8 Edw. 2, r. 13.

* Quo. Warr. 3 Edw. 3.

* Clause. 11 Edw. 3, p. 1, m. 26.

* Esc. 43 Edw. 3, m. 48.

* Esc. 15 Ric. 2, n. 24.

* Court Rolls.

* Luffield Cartulary, fo. 34b.

⁴ Mich. Comm. 56 Hen. 3, r. 2.

* Cardigan MSS. * Nom. Vill. p. 6.

* House of Ycery, 1, p. 242.

* Pat. 12 Edw. 3, m. 36.

* Ibid. m. 31, & Class.

* Pat. 7 Dec. 3

* Luffield Cartulary, fo. 33b.

* Ibid.

* Orig. 10

* Lham MSS.

* Esc. 35

* Esc. 35

* Esc. 35

* Esc. 35

* Esc. 35

* Esc. 35

Hinton, patron of the church of that vill, gave to the blessed Mary of Luffield all the tithes of corn of all his demesne of the fee of Mandeville in the territory of Silveston, according to the tenor of a composition made between the monks and the rector of Hinton, by which it was adjudged that they should hold the said tithes from him and his heirs, paying 2s. yearly to the rector for the time being¹; and strife having arisen between the rector and the monks respecting this payment, the prior gave the rector two marks for good peace, and the rector for himself and his successors renounced all right to the said 2s. yearly². Emma de Selveleia gave all her land in Silveston, rendering 11s. yearly³; and William de Selveleia, for the souls of Emma his mother, Eustachius his father, and earl Geoffrey (de Mandeville), gave all his lands there⁴. William de Mandeville, earl of Essex, confirmed the donations from the Selveleias⁵; and by another deed confirmed all the land of his fee which ought to render the service of one knight's fee, quit from all service⁶. The prior of Luffield in plea to a *quo warranto* in 3 Edw. 3 (1329) claimed by prescription, view of frank pledge and assize of bread and beer of all his tenants in Silveston; but it appearing that he punished offenders against the assize by amercement of 40d. instead of the legal punishment of pillory and tumbrel, the view was forfeited, but restored again for a fine of half a mark⁷. In 50 Edw. 3 (1376) the prior and convent demised the moiety of their manor of Monksbarne to Joan Hancock for life, saving 6s. 8d. for a heriot at her death, and suit at their court of *Silveston*⁸. This priory was, in the reign of Henry VII. annexed to the abbey of Westminster, to which it continued a cell till the final suppression of monastic establishments.

The possessions of the late priory of Luffield, parcel of the late abbey of Westminster, including the manor of "Silveston alias Silston," were granted in 5 Edw. 6 (1551) to Sir Nicholas Throckmorton⁹, of PAULERSPURY, and this manor became "the inheritance of Anne viscountess dowager of Balinglass in Ireland,"¹⁰ daughter and heiress of dame Anne Temple¹¹, second daughter and coheiress of sir Arthur Throckmorton.

On a partition in 1698 between sir Richard Temple, bart. (afterwards viscount Cobham) "the right heir of the said viscountess Balinglass on her father's side," and Thomas earl of Sussex, grandson and heir of Elizabeth, third daughter and coheiress of sir Arthur, the manor of Silveston Luffield was conveyed to the earl; who in May 1703 sold it to

Sir Benjamin Bathurst¹², of PAULERSPURY, from which time it has descended with Silveston Burnham manor down to George Henry 4th duke of Grafton, the present proprietor (1834). A court is occasionally held for this manor, but there are no copyholds attached to it.

St. Andrew's Priory, Northampton, had lands and woods in Silveston, but by whom given is not recorded in the cartulary. They were partly granted in 6 Edw. 6 (1551-2) to Henry (Brandon), duke of Suffolk¹³, and Monkswood was the same year granted (int. al.) to Edward lord Clinton (afterwards earl of Lincoln) and Henry Herdson in exchange for lands in other counties¹⁴. In 10 Jac. 1 (1612) Crescent Botry, esq. of MARSTON ST. LAWRENCE¹⁵, died seised of a pasture called the Westfield, and a wood, grove, and land called Fieldgrove and Foxhall alias Monkswood in Silveston, parcel of the late abbey of St. Andrew in Northampton¹⁶. They remained in the family of Botry at the time of Bridges¹⁷; but were afterwards alienated to the *Blencowes* of MARSTON ST. LAWRENCE, and are now vested in John Jackson Blencowe, esq.

SILVESTON was the residence of our early monarchs when they resorted to the forest of Whittlewood to enjoy the pleasures of the chase. A mandate from king Henry II. for the monks of Bordesley in Staffordshire to have all the villeins and fugitives belonging to their lands, was dated at Silveston¹⁸. King Richard in a personal conference with William king of Scotland, at Northampton in April 1194, delivered to him a special charter whereby he regulated the ceremonial and covenanted to bear the expences of the Scotch in coming, staying, and returning, when he was summoned to attend the great councils of England. From Northampton, Richard proceeded to Silveston in his way to Winchester on the 12th of that month. Hubert (Walter), archbishop of Canterbury, and Hugh (Pudsey), bishop of Durham, went as far as Brackley, and took possession of the inn which the bishop had occupied thirty years before. The servants of the king of Scotland surprised them there, and attempted to eject the bishops' servants, but were not able. They nevertheless purchased provision for the king, and dressed it for the table. When the bishop came he boldly entered the inn, and ordered the meal to be served, but the archbishop resigned his pretensions and retired. On the return of the Scotch king from hunting—probably with Richard—he refused to go there, and commanding what was provided to be given to the poor, he went to Silveston to complain of the bishop to the king, who was exceedingly angry, and warmly reprimanded him. The next day the two monarchs advanced to Woodstock, and on the 15th, Richard was solemnly crowned at Winchester¹⁹. King John was frequently here. On the 3d of Jan. 1200 he dated from hence the grant of Medmenham in Buckinghamshire to Woburn abbey²⁰. He was here from the 2d to the 5th of Sept. 1204, and from the 10th to the 12th of Feb. 1204-5²¹; on the 24th and 25th May 1205, and 15th Mar. 1206-7²²; on the 8th and 9th of Aug., and the 5th and 6th of Nov. 1207, and 17th of Jan. 1207-8²³; from the 6th to the 9th of Aug. 1212²⁴; from the 16th to the 16th Feb. 1214-5²⁵; and from the 4th to the 6th of Mar. 1215-6, during which three days he issued more than twenty orders and grants, principally of the forfeited lands of the adherents of the barons²⁶. King Henry III. was here on the 16th of June 1224²⁷. A grant from him to the university of Oxford bears date at *Silveston* 6 Feb. 1235-6²⁸; and in Aug. 1258 whilst staying here, he gave the monks of Luffield a

¹ Luffield Cartulary, fo. 14.

² Ibid. fo. 17.

³ Ibid. fo. 31.

⁴ Ibid. fo. 32.

⁵ Ibid. fo. 33 b.

⁶ Quo Warr. 3 Edw. 3.

⁷ Luffield Cartulary, fo. 49 b.

⁸ Pat. 7 Dec. 3 Edw. 6, p. 3.

⁹ Abstract of title to Dofford rectory.

¹⁰ Pat. 6 Edw. 6, p. 2.

¹¹ Pat. 4 Dec. 6 Edw. 6, p. 7, & Augm. Off. Box II. 2.

¹² Rec. 10 Jac. p. 5, n. 113.

¹³ Br. 1, p. 245.

¹⁴ Mad. Formularies, p. 294.

¹⁵ Decem Scriptores post Bedam (1601) Hoveden, p. 758.

¹⁶ Hatton. MSS. Cart. Antiq. I. 29.

¹⁷ Class. 6 Joh. (vol. 1, p. 7 & 18.)

¹⁸ Ibid. 16 Joh. (vol. 1, p. 188.)

¹⁹ Joh. (vol. 1, p. 33 & 67.)

²⁰ Ibid. 9 Joh. (vol. 1, p. 89 & 93.)

²¹ Ibid. 14 Joh. (vol. 1, p. 121.)

²² Ibid. 17 Joh. (vol. 1, p. 251.)

²³ Ibid. 8 Hen. 3. (vol. 1, p. 605.)

²⁴ Ibid. 17 Joh. (vol. 1, p. 251.)

²⁵ Ibid. 8 Hen. 3. (vol. 1, p. 605.)

²⁶ Pryme's Collections, 3, p. 91.

²⁷ Ibid. 16 Joh. (vol. 1, p. 188.)

²⁸ Vide ASTWELL, vol. 1, p. 734.

²⁹ Vide MARSTON ST. LAWRENCE, vol. 1, p. 461.

charter placing them under his special protection^m. King Edward I. was at Silveston 22 Dec. 1274ⁿ. From the circumstance of his placing an oblation of 7s. on the great altar in the church of Luffield priory on the 9th of Aug. 1290^o, it may be fairly presumed that he was then living here, and this is the last notice which I have been able to trace of royal residence at Silveston.

Geoffrey Fitz-Peter the sheriff, in rendering an account of the farm of the county of Northampton for the first half year of 6 Ric. I. (1194) deducted 20s. and Simon de Pateshull for the other half year deducted £6. for the repairs of the king's houses in Silveston^p. In 6 Joh. (1204) the sheriff of the county was commanded by view of legal men to do the necessary repairs of the king's houses and walls in Silveston without delay before winter, and it should be accounted to him at the exchequer^q. In the following year Robert de la Saucei and Henry Fitz-Peter the custodes or sheriffs, in rendering their account for the first half year, deducted £9. 5s. for the repair of the king's houses in Silveston by the king's writ, and by view of William de Silveston and Henry Clerk; and Peter de Stokes, custos or sheriff for the other half year, deducted 116s. 8d. by view of William and Henry de Silveston^r; and a writ issued to the barons of the exchequer to account with the sheriff for what he had expended in the reparation of the king's houses in Northampton and Silveston^s. In the succeeding year a writ issued to the barons to account with Peter de Stokes for what he had expended by writ and view of legal men in the repairs of the king's castle and houses in Northampton, and houses in Silveston, so that it should all be accounted to, or deducted from, his farm of the county of Northampton if sufficient, but if not, that it should be accounted to him out of the issues of the Norman lands in his custody, and for which he ought to answer to the exchequer^t. In 17 Joh. (1215) the sheriff was commanded, if the men of Silveston had repaired, or were willing peaceably to repair, the pond there, to let them have 60s. which he should otherwise require from them for their farm, which Simon son of Walter took^u; and the barons of the exchequer were directed to allow the sheriff 49s. 2d. which he had expended on the king's house at Silveston^v. Similar orders were issued in 3 Hen. 3 (1218)^w. In 5 Hen. 3 (1221) the sheriff was commanded without delay to repair the king's pond and the walls round the king's houses at Silveston as they were accustomed to be in the times of king Henry the grandfather, Richard the uncle, and John the father of the present king^x; and in 6 Hen. 3 (1222)^y and 8 Hen. 3 (1224)^z orders were again issued to the sheriff for repairs, and the expense would be allowed at the exchequer. In 34 Hen. 3 (1251) the sheriff certified that timber for the king's works at Silveston could not be found in the forest of Whittlewood, without the woods of Pokesley and Hanley, and a mandate issued for him to take the timber where it would be to the least damage^{aa}; and in 38 Hen. 3 (1255) the sheriff rendered an account of the completion of the works begun by Simon de Thorp at Geddington and Silveston^{ab}.

Several entries of wine sent for the supply of the royal table here occur in the Close Rolls. "The king to the sheriff of the county of Northampton, greeting. Know ye that we have commanded W. de Wrotham to purchase wine for our use at the fairs of Hoyland to the value of £100, and to cause the same to be sent to Jakesley [Yaxley], and to let you know when it should arrive there; wherefore we command you when he has apprised you thereof, to cause three casks of the said wine to be sent to Clive [Cliffe Regis], six to Geddington, and four to Selveston, and all the remainder to Northampton, and to appoint some trusty person to take care that it shall not be injured in the carriage, and you shall be accounted with at the exchequer. 24 June 7 Joh. (1205)^c." In Nov. 16 Joh. (1214) the chancellor was commanded to purchase five casks of the best wine which could be found in London, and send one to Clive, one to Geddington, one to Rockingham, one to Selveston, and one to Salcey, in good casks, for which purpose he might if necessary use the king's casks, and moreover provide sufficient wine for use in each of the said places^d; and in Jan. following, another order issued to the chancellor to send without delay four tons of red wine to Wallingford, three to Bruhull [Brill in Buckinghamshire], one to Finemer [in Oxfordshire], two to Selveston, and one cask to Wakefeld, and two casks of white wine and ten of red to Northampton, and two tons to Geddington, two to "Salvatu," and four to Rockingham^e. In 15 Hen. 3 (1251) the sheriff rendered an account of £6. 10s. 6d. for the carriage of four casks of wine from St. Botolph's to Clive, two to Rockingham, fourteen to Northampton, five to Geddington, and four to Selveston^f. In 2 Edw. 1 (1274) William de Brandeston died seised of a messuage and croft, six cottages and three acres of land, held by the sergeantry of taking charge of the wine in the king's cellars at Silveston^g. He had other lands in Silveston held of the priory of Luffield, and was succeeded by his brother John de Brandeston, aged sixty years^h. These lands, with possessions in Braunston and Kirby, remained in the family till the extinction of the male line in 35 Edw. 3 (1361) on the decease of another John de Brandestonⁱ, whose coheirs have been already given under Kirby in BLAKESLEY^j. In the inquisition on his death there was a variation in the terms of the sergeantry; the tenure was *tasting* the king's wines so often as he should reside at his manor of Silveston^k, instead of, or in addition to, simply *taking charge* of it; and the privilege of housebote and haybote in the forest of Whittlewode was also attached to the lands.

A CHAPEL was attached to the royal residence. In 2 Joh. (1200) the sheriff rendered an account of 20s. for the livery or maintenance of the chaplain of Selveston^l; in 7 Joh. (1205) the same sum for each half year^m; and in 9 Joh. (1207) the sheriff was commanded to let the king's chaplain at Selveston have hand towels and other necessities for his chapel to the value of 10s. and it should be allowed at the exchequerⁿ.

The site of the royal mansion was mistaken by Bridges for King's hill in Whitfield^o, or Siresham^p, but there can

^m Luffield Cartulary, fo. 22b.

ⁿ Class. 3 Edw. 1.

^o Lib. Garderob. Edw. 1.

^p Pip. North. 6 Ric. 1.

^q Class. 12 Aug.

^r 13 Feb. 6 Joh. (vol. 1, p. 5 & 20).

^s Pip. North. 7 Joh.

^t Class. 1 Jan. 7 Joh. (vol. 1, p. 61).

^u Ibid. 22 May 8 Joh. (vol. 1, p. 70).

^v Ibid. 13 Apr. 17 Joh. (vol. 1, p. 251).

^w Ibid. 7 Mar. 17 Joh. (vol. 1, p. 251).

^x Ibid. 2 Nov. 3 Hen. 3.

^y Ibid. 12 Apr. 5 Hen. 3.

^z Ibid. 8 Oct. 6 Hen. 3.

^{aa} Ibid. 26 Mar. 8 Hen. 3.

^{ab} Ibid. 30 Mar. 8 Hen. 3.

^c Cardigan MSS. G. 3, p. 582. "Class. 34 Hen. 3."

^d Pip. North. 35 Hen. 3.

^e Class. 24 June 7 Joh.

^f Ibid. 7 Nov. 16 Joh.

^g Ibid. 28 Jan. 16 Joh.

^h Pip. North. 15 Hen. 3.

ⁱ Ess. 2 Edw. 1, n. 5.

^j Ess. 4 Edw. 3, n. 6—5 Ric. 2, n. 4—8 Ric. 2, n. 113.

^k Pip. North. 2 Joh.

^l Ibid. 7 Joh.

^m Nov. 9 Joh.

ⁿ Br. 1, p. 243-4.

^o Vide p. 39.

^p Vide vol. 1, p. 678.

be no hesitation in assigning the mansion and chapel to King's hill coppice and Chapel coppice, which were within the Haselborough walk of the forest, and in the precincts of Silveston.

THE VILLAGE stands on rising ground, four miles from Towcester on the turnpike road to Brackley. On the 21st of May 1807, between five and six o'clock P. M. a fire broke out here, occasioned by singeing a pig too near some thatch. In an hour and a half nine houses were burnt down, and property destroyed to the amount of upwards of £2000 P. By the census of 1801 it contained 138 houses and 586 inhabitants; by that of 1811, 161 houses and 696 inhabitants; by that of 1821, 177 houses and 837 inhabitants; and by that of 1831, 202 houses and 947 inhabitants. The annual quota of land tax for this hamlet is £79. 7s. at 4s. in the £. The estimated value of real property as assessed to the property tax of 10 *per cent.* for the year ending April 1815, amounted to £1,106. The poor's rates for the year ending Easter 1832, raised £730. 2s. 6d. at 9s. in the £. The wake is held on the Sunday before Michaelmas day.

THE CHAPEL. 'q In Silveston,' says Bridges, 'is a chapel of ease to the church of *Whittlebury*. It consists of a body and chancel tiled, and almost of an equal height. At the west end is a small wooden turret, in which is one bell. The length of this chapel is thirty-nine foot, the breadth of it sixteen foot. Here are no monuments nor inscriptions; the inhabitants of *Silveston* burying their dead at *Whittlebury*. It is a modern building, and the rector of Norton is the minister, who supplies it by a curate.' The present chapel is a plain neat building of stone, 59 ft. 9 in. long by 39 ft. wide.

A separate register was first kept at Silveston in 1831, and marriages began to be celebrated at the chapel.

THE WESLEYAN METHODISTS in 1811 erected a chapel here, 34 ft. long by 37 ft. wide.

BENEFACTIONS (vide p. 2). LEESON'S CHARITY *. The sum of 20s. *per annum*, received under this charity, is given away in bread, money, or linen, among poor people selected at a township meeting.

SAUNDER'S CHARITY †. Eight poor children from Silveston are admitted under this donation into the national school at *Whittlebury*, and gratuitously instructed in reading, writing, and arithmetic.

POOR'S LAND. The commissioners for inclosing Haselborough walk and Silveston, allotted eight acres in trust for the poor of Silveston in lieu of their right to sere and broken wood in *Whittlebury* forest. This allotment is now let in small portions to the poor.

LUFFIELD PRIORY.

Luffield, according to the etymology of Browne Willis, "*Ager amabilis* or *Lovelyfield* from its situation," is a secluded spot within the forest of *Whittlewood*, or *Whittlebury*. Here, at the junction of the two counties of Buckingham and Northampton, the conventual buildings and offices being principally in the parish of Lillingston Dayrell in the former county, and the church wholly in the precincts of Silveston, stood a small priory of the Benedictine order, dedicated to the Virgin Mary. It was founded in the reign of Henry I. by Robert Bossu, earl of Leicester, who, for the souls of William king of England and queen Matilda, and Roger de Bellamont and Adeliza his wife †, and Robert his father, and for the health of the souls of himself and Waleran his brother, gave in alms to Malger the monk, the servant of God, a small laund between "*Lunbrodam* & *Cepieleian*" for mansions or dwellings, and to make an oratory there, and also as much of the other land of "*Cerveleia*" as with the advice of his friends he should consider sufficient for building. The charter is headed, "the foundation of the monastery of the blessed Mary of Luffield in the county of Northampton within the forest of *Whittewode*;" Waleran earl of Mellent is the first, and Osulf the forester the last witness to it; and it was made by the advice and approbation of the earl Warren, Nigel de Albini, and the grantor's brother Waleran earl of Mellent *. King Henry I. commanded R. Basset, A. de Vere, and Hugh de Chalan, and all his foresters of "*Whitleword*," to permit the prior and monks of Luffield to have, as they were accustomed, all convenient accommodation in his forest without waste, and to protect them from all injury and contumely so long as they were under his patronage *. The empress M. daughter of king Henry, issued a similar command, though rather differently expressed *; and by another charter in which she styled herself queen Matilda, directed Vitalis Engaine and William de Lusoris or Lizures—the foresters, though not so designated—as they valued her love, to maintain Malger the monk, and his ["*servientes*"] servants in the peaceable enjoyment of what the king had granted to them *. King Henry III. in the 42d year of his reign (1258) by a charter dated at "*Silveston*" took into his special protection and defence all the men, lands, and other possessions of the prior and convent of Luffield, whose

* Northampton Mercury.

† Br. 1, p. 246.

* Br. Willis's Buckingham, p. 223.

* Luffield Cartulary, fo. 1.

* Vide ARTHUR.

† Vide Greens Norton, p. 68.

‡ Vide BRACKLEY, vol. 1, p. 563.

church was of his foundation—or more correctly, patronage; and in the 55th year of his reign, acquitted them of the twentieths for their natives, which they had certified to him and his eldest son Edward¹. The donations to this priory in Dodford², Heyford³, Madding⁴, Greens Norton⁵, Silveston⁶, and Whittlebury⁷, have been already detailed, and in Challock, Cosgrave, Elington, Milton Malsor, Northampton, Paulerspury, Slapton, and Towcester remain to be noticed as they respectively arise.

In Buckinghamshire the monks of Luffield had considerable possessions. Hamon, son of Meinfein de Wolverton, with the consent of Hamon his son gave them the tithes of his house wheresoever it might be on his land, and the church of Thornborough⁸; and William son of Hamon de Wolverton confirmed the church of Thornborough, and gave them 10s. yearly rent for ever out of his west mill in Wolverton, in lieu of the tithes of the bread of his house, which they had of the gift of his ancestor⁹. Sir John, son of sir Alan de Wolverton, released to them all the lands which they had of his fee in Thornborough, free from all service¹⁰; and John, son of John lord of Wolverton, ratified the donation which John, son of Alan de Wolverton, his father, made of the homage and service of William de Fraxino, but saving to himself and his heirs the proportion of hidage, scutage, and castleward to Northampton castle due from those lands; and at the same time granted them all the lands and tenements which belonged to Robert de Fraxino of Thornborough the day he was hanged for felony¹¹, and which had escheated to him as chief lord. Robert de Aerial or Dayrell, with Ralph his son, gave them the place in his wood of Lillingston, in which was built the chapel of St. Thomas (a Becket) the archbishop and martyr¹²; to which Ralph afterwards added all his wood in width from the king's way to Westbury wood, and in length from St. Thomas's chapel to great Holebeck¹³; and Hugh de St. Martin gave them the chapel of St. John the Baptist in his court of Lillingston¹⁴. Hugh de Chastellon gave half a virgate in Leckhamstead¹⁵. William de Westbury "Vicecomes de Dunard," confirmed to them all the land in Westbury of the gift of his father¹⁶. Simon de St. Liz gave them part of his wood there between the woods of Richard de Castillon and the prior of Brackley¹⁷; and Ralph de Hareng gave them all the wood between Kenpad and their own wood in width, and from the trench cut from the rivulet of Holebeck to Pickering cross in length¹⁸. Ralph, son of Ralph Hareng gave them a messuage with a croft and half a virgate of land in Chakemore¹⁹. Robert de Langeport bestowed on them half his land at Langport or Lampport near Stowe, which his son Jordan confirmed by the description of five virgates of land²⁰. Pagan de Beauchamp confirmed to them that hide of land in Evershaw, which Ralph the son of Richard held of him, and had granted to them²¹. Ralph lord of Evershaw gave them half a hide of his land there, and the chapel of the said vill²², which half hide prior John released for 4s. 8d. yearly to Hugh de Evershaw, son of William, who confirmed the grant of the chapel²³, probably in consideration of the easy terms on which the land was surrendered to him. William Baynell gave the monks a virgate of land in "Saldeston"²⁴ or Shalston. William Baynell, son of William, presented to them the tithes of bread at his house there; and sir William Baynell, son of sir William Baynell, lord of Shalston, assured to them all the lands which they then held or might hereafter acquire of his fee. Another William Baynell confirmed to them the land there called "Aldwic!" Richard, son of Nigel de Bechampton, gave them a moiety of the church of Bechampton, and half a virgate of land in "Salden," which his father Nigell gave them, and two parts of the tithe of his demesne there²⁵. Sir William Bechampton gave them half a virgate, and Henry Kyneman a virgate and a half in Bechampton²⁶. William, son of William de Stratford, gave them the church of Water Stratford²⁷, and they had two messuages in Buckingham²⁸, and small rentcharges in other places. King Edward I. gave them the hermitage which Gerald the monk made in the wood of Flechampsted in Warwickshire²⁹, but afterwards transferred it to the knights templars.

Pope Alexander III. by a bull in 1174 (20 Hen. 2) confirmed to Ralph prior of St. Mary of Luffield, all the possessions of the convent, including the site of the convent, the church of Dodford, the chapel of St. Thomas the martyr, Fleckhamstede, Charley (qu. where?), Bradwell, the vill called Eversaw, lands in Langeport, Wavendon, and Salden, with two parts of the tithe of the demesne lands in Leckhamsted, Westbury, and Bedford with a certain manse before the archdeacon's gate, lands in Silveston, the tithes of bread from the houses of Hamon, son of Meinfein, William de Brun, William de Plumpton, and William de Lillingston, and a house in Northampton³⁰.

The annual rental of this priory in 17 Edw. 1 (1289) as entered in the cartulary, was "in rents from divers tenants £1. 4s. 11d., in Eversaw [co. Bucks] £1. 12s. 2d., in Buckingham 7s. 6d., in Chalkmore 1s. 4d., in Langport 9s. 8d., in Aole one pound of wax, in Leckhamsted 5s., in Lillingston (Dayrell) 9s. 8d., in Bechampton £1. 11s. 10d., in Stoni Stratford 2s., in Wolverton 10s., in Salden 2s. 6d., in Thornborough £6. 11. 5jd., in Shaldeston £2. 15. 14., in Boicote 12d., in Bedford 3s., in Lillingston major [Lovell, co. Oxon] 13s. 8d., in Braklee [co. Northt.] 4s., in Silveston 4s. 2d., in Wittlebury 9s. 1d., in Towcester 12s. 5d., in Blacovesle 9s., in Middleton 12d., in Brockhole one pound of pepper, in Dodford £2. 16s. 10jd., in Heyford £1. 1s. 4d., Total £22. 6s. 10jd." There were also then paid by their tenants in these places thirty capons and seventy-seven hens³¹.

¹ Luffield Cartulary, fo. 29b.

² Ibid. fo. 99b. & 160.

³ Ibid. fo. 160b.

⁴ Ibid. fo. 162.

⁵ Ibid. fo. 107.

⁶ Ibid. fo. 14b.

⁷ Ibid. fo. 97.

⁸ Ibid. fo. 113.

⁹ Ibid. fo. 114b.

¹⁰ Ibid. fo. 118.

¹¹ Ibid. fo. 118b.

¹² Ibid. fo. 124b.

¹³ Ibid. fo. 125b.

¹⁴ Ibid. fo. 126 to 140b.

¹⁵ Ibid. fo. 217.

¹⁶ Ibid. fo. 215 & 216.

¹⁷ Ibid. fo. 167b.

¹⁸ Ibid. fo. 120 & 122.

¹⁹ Ibid. fo. 2b.

²⁰ Ibid. fo. 2.

²¹ Ibid. fo. 229 to 232b.

²² Ibid. fo. 139.

²³ Vide p. 46.

²⁴ Vide p. 61.

²⁵ Vide p. 87.

²⁶ Vide p. 70.

TAXATIO ECCLESIASTICA P. NICHOLAI IV. A.D. 1291 (20 EDW. 1).

		LUFFELD PRIORAT ¹ .					
Dioc. LIN.		li.	s.	d.			
(Buck.)					in Luffeld in tris & redd ¹	-	- i xi ij
Pore ² in Ecclesia de Muresle	-	-	i	ii vi	ibid. in fruct ³ greg ⁴ & aial ⁵	-	- x
in Schalden in redd ⁶	-	-	-	-	in Westbur ⁷ in redd ⁸	-	- x liij
in Eveshawe, Schaldeston, Eldewyk,	-	-	-	-	in W'loston [Wolverton] de redd ⁹	-	- x
in tris redd ¹⁰ cur ¹¹	-	-	ij	xij v	(OXON.)		
ibid. in fruct ¹² greg ¹³ & aial ¹⁴	-	-	-	-	in Lullingston in redd ¹⁵	-	- xlij viij
in Bukynghin	-	-	-	iv	(NORTH.)		
in Thornb've in tris redd ¹⁶ p'tis cur ¹⁷	-	-	-	-	in Dodeford de redd ¹⁸	-	- ij ij
fruct ¹⁹ aial ²⁰	-	-	vij	xiv xi	in Westcote & Helmeden & Schol ²¹	-	- ij xviob.
in Bechington in tris p'tis deduct ²²	-	-	-	v	delak [Challok] in tris & redd ²³	-	- ij xv xviob.
deducend ²⁴	-	-	-	-	ibid. in fruct ²⁵ greg ²⁶ & aial ²⁷	-	- v vij iv
					[Summa xxvii. xixs. viiob.]		

A comparison of these two valuations made at an interval of only three years will discover many discrepancies which it is impossible now to account for, or reconcile. Whittlebury, Silveston, and other places are wholly omitted in the latter. Both, however, agree in the exility of its income; and it is rather remarkable that a religious establishment which originated under such favorable auspices, founded by a powerful earl, sanctioned and seconded by royal charters, and patronised by the neighbouring lords, should, after struggling with poverty for centuries, be compelled to resign its independence. It was sunk so low in the reign of Edward III. that a licence was obtained to endow it further for its better support, and enable it to receive £10 *per ann.* to pray for the king's good estate while living, and for his soul when dead, and for the soul of sir John Grey⁴, probably the donor of this augmentation. This well-intentioned effort to raise its fortunes was unavailing, and in 1457 (35 Hen. 6) the president of St. Mary Magdalen hall in Oxford procured the royal licence for purchasing the site and possessions of Luffield priory⁷. This hall had been founded in 1448 by Waynfleet, bishop of Winchester, who now proposed increasing its endowment, but obtaining St. John's hospital at Oxford, he altered his purpose, and the hall was merged in his new foundation of Magdalen college. A short respite of the fate of Luffield intervened till at the suggestion of Henry VII. pope Alexander VI. in 1494 (10 Hen. 7) issued a bull for appropriating it to founding a chapel and chantry to the Virgin Mary in the royal collegiate church of St. George at Windsor⁸; but the king subsequently abandoned the design, and in 1500 (15 Hen. 7) obtained another bull from the same pope reciting the former disposition of it, and settling it with Motisford priory in Hampshire on the foundation of a chapel to the virgin Mary in Westminster abbey⁹; which grant, however, did not take effect during the life of prior Thomas Rowland, who died in 1503 (18 Hen. 7) seized of the church, the chapel of St. Thomas the martyr, four messuages, forty-eight acres of pasture, ten acres of meadow, and nineteen acres of wood in Luffield, and the other possessions of the priory held of the king in pure and perpetual alms⁹. In June the following year pope Julius II. by bull confirmed the annexation of this priory with the royal chapel of St. Martin Magnus in Tickhill castle in Yorkshire, to king Henry the Seventh's chapel in Westminster abbey⁹; and it continued a cell to that splendid establishment till the general dissolution of the monasteries.

Camden places Luffield in Buckinghamshire, and says, "by reason that the Monkes were all consumed with the plague, the house was utterly left desolate." No authority is given for this assertion; and in truth, irremediable penury was "the plague" from which they suffered, the inadequacy of the funds of the priory to support a prior and two monks being the reason assigned for its suppression in 1494⁷. One principal cause of its poverty—and which is equally applicable to many of the minor priories—was the improvident demises of lands in fee at small reserved rents which remained stationary whilst money was progressively advancing in value.

Advowson. On the extinction of the Norman line of the earls of Leicester, the patronage of this monastery appears to have been claimed by the king, and was henceforward exercised by the crown to the exclusion of the representatives of the original founder.

PRIORS. In the episcopal registers of Lincoln, this priory was placed within the jurisdiction of the archdeacon of Northampton, to whom the mandates for induction of the priors were always directed. To the list of priors in the New Monasticon², compiled principally from the Cartulary, Brown Willis's Abbies, and the Patent Rolls, I can add but little, and shall therefore adopt it with a few variations. "The first head of this house is supposed to have been the monk

Malgerius, mentioned in the founder's charter. His successor was

William, who is first distinguished by the title of *Prior*. In his time Pope Eugenius the Third A. D. 1151, 17th Steph. granted several privileges to the monastery. He was succeeded by

Ralph, who occurs A. D. 1174.

John is said to have been appointed prior by king

Henry II. Willis observes it must have been at the latter end of his reign; as John lived in the time of Robert archdeacon of Buckingham, who does not occur in that office till the last year of Henry II.

William was the next prior. Willis says with the consent of his convent, he granted to Robert D'Amory in the presence of William de Blois, archdeacon of Bucks, the chantry chapel of St. Laurence, situated in the parish of Thornborough, which must have been done in or before 1218, William de Blois being the prior in that year to the bishoprick of Worcester. His successor is presumed to have been

Roger, whose name occurs in a controversy relating to the patronage of the church of St. Giles at Water Stratford sometime after 1215. Cole, from Willis's MSS. Notes, says he occurs in 1229.

William de Brackele occurs prior in 1237. He indented

¹ Willis's Buckingham, p. 223.

² Rym. Fed. 12, p. 563.

³ Rym. Fed. 12, p. 563.

⁴ Ibid. 12, p. 738.

⁵ Esc. 18 Hen. 7

p. 2, n. 212.

⁶ Rym. Fed. 13, p. 97.

⁷ Rym. Fed. 12, p. 563.

⁸ Mon. Ang. (1623) vol. 4, p. 36.

⁹ Annales

de Dunstap. edit. Hearne, p. 265.

with the abbat of Bittlesden, concerning some lands lying near his monastery. "In the autumn of 1244 a gang of five and twenty depredators entered the convent, and robbed the monks of gold and silver, and vessels, and other ornaments of the church, and whatsoever they could find. But the king commiserating their misfortune, gave them three chalices and ornaments for three chaplains and £15 in money."^a "Upon prior Brackele's death in 1263

Ralph de Selveston was elected prior. He is called upon the Patent Rolls *Ralph de Luffield*. Willis says he resigned after twelve years' government, June 13th 1274.

William de Estinton or *Esteneston* succeeded, to whom the temporalities were restored on June 20th 1274. A licence to elect on his resignation was obtained by the monks on Feb. 26th, and on the 2d of March A. D. 1279, we find the royal assent given to the election of

Adam de Henred, to whom, on the 8th of March following, the temporalities were restored." He tendered his resignation in 1285, when the subprior and convent, by the king's licence, elected a second *William de Brackele*, one of their monks, to be prior; but the bishop of Lincoln annulling the election, they elected another prior, without petitioning for or obtaining a new licence from the king, or gaining the royal assent thereto, against his crown and dignity; whereupon the king seized their temporalities, but afterwards of his special grace directed the escheator to commit them to the said Adam till the next parliament, to abide their decision, and in the mean time to answer to the crown for the issues and profits.^c "Adam resigned in 1287, whereupon

Richard de Selveston is stated upon the Patent Rolls to have been elected in the latter end of the month of May, the king consenting to his election on the 18th of June. On the 6th of July, however, in the same year, we have a fresh election given to the election of

John de Houton or *Houghton*, a monk of Daventre, to whom the temporalities were restored on July 16th. This prior, after two years, vacated his government, and entered into the order of Friars Minors. A licence for a fresh election was obtained on April 28th 1289, when

Gilbert de Mersh was elected, but speedily resigned; for on May 15th following we find the royal assent given, and the temporalities restored on May 22d, to

Peter de Saldeston, or *Schaldeston*. In the extracts from Bishop Sutton's Register, MS. Harl. 6951, p. 26, he is called *Peter de Maideston*, and said to have been admitted on the 12th kal. June. In a subsequent page of the bishop's register we find his deposition; and he is there called *Peter de Scaldeford*. He was removed on the 11th kal. Nov. 1294. On the 20th of the same month the royal assent was given to the election of

William de Brackele, and the temporalities restored Dec. 28th. He died in 1316.

John de Westbury received the royal assent June 13th, and the temporalities July 13th 1316. His death was communicated to the king, and a licence for a fresh election obtained on Oct. 14th 1343, when he was succeeded by

William de Skilton or *Skellton*, to whom the temporalities were restored Nov. 1st 1343. His successor

William de Horwode had the temporalities of the priory restored to him June 30th 1348. In his time, says Willis, Henry Greene, knt. (I presume of Greens Norton near Towcester) was a great benefactor to Luffield by giving a hundred marks to new roof the choir, and cover it with lead, &c. on which account daily masses were ordered by the convent to be said for the good estate of him and his family while they lived, and for their souls after his decease. Upon his resignation,

John Pyrgye, or *Pery*, was elected. He received the royal assent May the 16th, and the temporalities June the 19th 1383. Willis says he died in 1394; but the licence obtained for a fresh election upon his death was dated Aug. 27th 20 Ric. 2, A. D. 1397; upon the 27th of September in which year the temporalities were restored to

John Horwode. He had been admitted a monk of the monastery in the 42d Edw. 3."

John Hals or *Halse* was elected prior of Luffield of the order of St. Benedict, vacant by the death of brother John Horwode of good memory, with the royal assent 28 Aug. 8 Hen. 5 (1419)^d, "and had the temporalities granted to him Sept. 20th 1419."

John Pynchebek succeeded on the death of Hals. The royal assent was given to his election on Aug. 1st, and the temporalities restored to him Aug. 18th 1442. Willis says he occurs prior in 1460, the last of Henry VI. and 1st of Edw. IV. His immediate successor, he adds, in all probability was

William Rogers, who an. 1467, 8th Edw. IV. made a rental of divers tenements, lands, and manors belonging to his monastery; in whose time great part of the Register of Luffield, now in the possession of the dean and chapter of Westminster, was transcribed. Upon his resignation in 1487,

Thomas Rowlande was appointed by the bishop to succeed him. During the government of Rowlande, says Willis, A. D. 1494, the religious quitted this house and retired to other monasteries; the prior to that of Abingdon, where he died lord abbat A. D. 1504." The actual surrender is antedated in this statement; and there is evidently a misappropriation of a cotemporary individual, for the inquisition after the death of the Thomas Rowland, who was prior of Luffield, was taken in June 1503, and he is expressly stated to have died seized of the possessions of the priory.^e



THE COMMON SEAL of this priory has a diapered back ground. In the centre is a circular arch trefoil headed, under which is seated the virgin Mary crowned, holding in her right hand a sceptre, and nursing on her left knee the infant Jesus, who has a nimbus surrounding, and the star of Bethlehem over his head; and a book in his left hand. Above, is the representation of a church, and beneath, is the demi figure of a monk praying. Round the area is inscribed S. COMMUNIS SANCTE MARIE DE LUFFIELD. The annexed representation is copied from a print in Lysons's "Magna Britannia," engraved from an impression of the original matrix then in the possession of the rev. Charles Prescott, of Stockport in Cheshire, but which was subsequently presented by him to the late marquis of Buckingham, and is now incorporated with the matchless collection of MSS. charters, and seals illustrative of British topography at Stowe.

^a Annales de Dunstap. edit. Hearne, p. 265.

^c Prynn's Papal Usurpations, vol. 3, p. 349.

^d Luffield Car-

ulary, 6, 37b.

^e Esc. 16 Hen. 7, p. 3, n. 212.

^f Vol. 1, p. 424.

^g Ibid. p. 668.

A CARTULARY of this religious house is amongst the muniments of the dean and chapter of Westminster, to whom it was given by John Battley, esq., in the time of queen Anne. It contains 240 leaves or 480 pages, and is probably the same volume which is mentioned by Tanner as belonging to a person of the name of Okeley in 1649. Collectanea by Francis Thüme, concerning the foundation of Luffield, occur in the Cotton MSS. Cleop. C. 3, art. 26; and excerpts from the register are preserved in the Ashmolean museum at Oxford, Dugdale MSS. vol. 39, fo. 131. Among the ancient charters in the Harleian collection in the British Museum, 84 F. 35 & 36, relate to this priory; and in Nasmith's edition of Tanner's Notitia Monastica are numerous references to public records.

FAIR. In 14 Hen. 3 (1230) the king for the souls of himself, his ancestors, and heirs, granted to the prior and monks a charter for a yearly fair at Luffield on the eve, the day, and the morrow of the exaltation of the holy cross^b. The time for holding the fair was a very unusual deviation, at so early a period from the general custom of having the wake or fair on the anniversary of the patron saint, which in the present case would have been on the assumption of the virgin Mary. This fair was confirmed to the monks on plea to a writ of *quo warranto* in 3 Edw. 3 (1329)ⁱ, and again by exemplification in 15 Ric. 2 (1391)^k. No mention is made of it in the inquisition after the death of prior Thomas Rowland in 18 Hen. 7 (1503)^l, and it may therefore be inferred that it had fallen into disuse.

THE PRESENT STATE of Luffield corresponds with the description given a century ago by Willis, who says^m, "when I visited this place, I was informed it was extraparochial, and belonged to Westminster abbey, and that on the Division of the Bounds of the Counties, the greatest part was included in Silveston parish, co. Northampton, and the rest in Lillingston Dayrell. Here was then nothing remaining whatsoever of the Priory Edifices, except a Piece of the wall of the Tower. I measured from this Tower ruins, the supposed Dimensions of the Church, which appeared to be about 80 Foot in Length, and 30 in Breadth; they informed me, that by Tradition there were five Bells in the Tower, and that they were carried to Paulers Perry, on the first Bell of which Church I met with this inscription, *Santa Maria ora pro nobis*; and so it might possibly have been brought from hence."

"At some Distance on the Northamptonshire Side, is a Tenant's House, and on the Buckinghamshire Side, an old Chapel turned into a Dwelling House, which was the Chapel of St. Thomas Becket, given by the Dayrell Family aforespoken of in Lillingston. It is assessed to the Land Tax, and all other Parish Rates, with the Lords of Stow's Demesnes, as they are proprietors of this Estate; whose Tenants, in digging about this old Tower in the year 1732, they there found (which was shewn me Oct. 11, 1733) an old Grave-stone like the Lid of a Stone Coffin, in the middle of which was a Cross of Brass Flory infixed, and these Arms engraven, viz. *Two Bars, in Chief, three Martlets*. Here were Letters round the Verge, enched in Brass, which being pickt out, and lying dispersedly, nothing could be made out or conjectured from those loose Letters who it belonged to it; but I suppose it was laid over one of the Priors, probably Prior William Horewood, in whose Time the Choir of this Church was new roofed and leaded about the year 1350, or Prior John Horwood's Time, who was admitted a Monk of this Convent Anno 1367, and died Prior thereof 1419." The cross which divides the counties of Buckingham and Northampton is cut out on the site of the conventual church; and there are between fifty and sixty acres of Luffield within the parish or liberties of Silveston, but, being reputed extraparochial, they were not exonerated from tithe under the act for inclosing Silveston.

THE SITE and demesne lands of the late priory of Luffield, parcel of the late abbey of Westminster, were granted in 5 Edw. 6 (1551) to sir Nicholas Throckmortonⁿ, of PAULERSPURY. Anne, the second of the four daughters and coheirresses of his eldest son sir Arthur Throckmorton, was the first wife of sir Peter Temple, bart. of Stowe in Buckinghamshire^o, by whom she had an only child, Anne, who married Thomas Roper, viscount Baltinglass in Ireland. In 1698, after her decease s. p. a partition was made between Thomas earl of Sussex, grandson of Elizabeth, the third daughter and coheirress of sir Arthur Throckmorton, and sir Richard Temple, bart. (afterwards viscount Cobham) "the right heir of the said viscountess Baltinglass on her father's side;" when Luffield was assigned to the latter, and has attended the inheritance of the other Temple estates down to Richard Nugent Temple Bridges Chandos, duke of Buckingham and Chandos, K. G. the present proprietor (1834).

^b Pat. 14 Hen. 3, p. 1, m. 11, & Luffield Cartulary, fo. 22b.
ⁱ Hen. 7, p. 2, n. 212.

^m Willis's Buckingham, p. 225.

ⁿ Vide ARSWELL, vol. 1, p. 734.

^o Quo Warr. 3 Edw. 3.

^k Pat. 7 Dec. 5 Edw. 6, p. 3.

^l Pat. 15 Ric. 2, p. 1, m. 7.

^l Esc. 18

^o Abstract of title to Dodford Rectory.

PLUMPTON.

sometimes called in early deeds Plumpton St. John to distinguish it from Plumpton in Cleley hundred, contains about 930 acres, and is all old inclosure. About 250 acres belong to Mrs. Edmonds, widow of Mr. William Edmonds, and Mr. John Aris, of Wedon Pinkney, the co-lords of the manor; about 490 acres, comprising the OAKLEY BANK farm and Plumpton wood, to Jesus college, Oxford; and about 105 acres to the rector in right of his church. The lordship is bounded on the north by Adston in Canons Ashby parish; east by Woodend in Blakesley parish; south by Weston and Wedon Pinkney; and west by Morton Pinkney. The soil is principally a stiff clay, and above three-fourths of the lordship is in permanent pasture. There was formerly an extensive pottery at Oakley bank. It was worked as late as the time of Morton, who thus describes the potter's-earth. "In the Clay pit at *Oakley-Bank* in the Liberty of *Plumpton*, out of which the Potter's-Earth is digg'd, the *Strata* lie as follows. 1. The soil, a sandy light Earth, about a Foot in Thickness. 2. Yellow Clay, one Foot and a half. This is a very fine and tough Sort of Clay, and very free from Stones and Sand. Of this by itself are made Mugs, and other Drinking Pots, Dishes, and all the thinner and finer Sort of Ware; the Clay being fine and ductile, and the Glazing lying well upon it. 'Tis a Clay of a yellow Colour interspersed with Specks of blue; but, having been wrought or temper'd, 'tis yellow all over alike. 'Twill not endure the Weather. 3. A shorter, and mellow, or more friable Clay, with a small mixture of Sand in it, one Foot and a half. This also is a yellow Clay interspersed with specks of Blue. Of this are made their Flower-pots, Pansions, Cloughs to salt Meat in, and the like coarser Sort of Ware. 4. A soft and somewhat Marly Clay of a blue Colour, copiously interspersed with spangling Particles. Its Depth unknown. Of this is made a still coarser, and grosser Sort of Ware, viz. Tiles and Ordinary Garden-pots. This last Earth, when it is wrought up, will endure any Weather, but will not take a handsome Glaze, by reason it cannot be wrought to a due Smoothness, as having several Knobs of a harder Clay than the rest, interspersed in the Body of it^a." Plumpton Wood, extending into Blakesley, belongs to Jesus college, Oxford, and contains about 160 acres in this parish.

MANORIAL HISTORY. WODHULL FEE*. *Levenot*, one of the king's thanes or nobles in the time of Edward the confessor, had an extensive territory in different counties, which he held freely and could dispose of at his pleasure. Of his Northamptonshire possessions, Litchborough was probably given by him to the abbey of Evesham^b; and the Norman conqueror bestowed Siresham and Croughton on earl Moreton^c; Grimsbury on Gunfrid de Cioches or Chokes^d; and Pipwell, Cottesbrook, (Hanging) Houghton, Lamport, Withmale, Pitsford, Horton, Evenley, Ashby (Canons), Astwick, (Cold) Higham, Plumpton, (Preston) Capes, Ascote, Wotton, and in Cleley hundred, and Pateshull, on Walter Flandrensis^e, ancestor of the Wodhulls, under whom *Levenot* at the domesday survey held his former freehold in "Plumtune." It consisted of one hide. The arable land was four carucates, of which one was in demesne with two servants; and six villeins had the remaining three carucates. There were four acres of meadow. It had been, and was still, valued at 40s. yearly^e.

The hide and a half, and fifth part of half a hide, held by *Hugh* under Walter Flandrensis, and placed by Bridges under Plumpton^f, has been transferred, for reasons there stated, to PRESTON CAPES^g.

MANOR. In the hydariam of Hen. 2, *William*, son of Robert, was certified to hold an hide and a half in "Plumton" of the fee of Wahull^h, and William de Plumton—evidently the same person, two hides and two small virgates in Blakesleyⁱ. He was succeeded by his brother *Robert de Plumpton*, whose son of the same names, in 27 Hen. 3 (1242) answered for half a fee in Plumpton of the fees of Saher de Wahull^h. He left five daughters and coheirresses, 1. *Emma*, wife of William de Cauz, 2. *Sarah*, wife of William de St. John, 3. *Alice*, wife of Robert de Burcot, 4. *Agnes*, wife of Richard de la Hay, and 5. *Sibilla*, wife of Adam de Bosco, or Bois. In 41 Hen. 3 (1256) Adam de Bosco and Sibilla his wife, and Richard de la Hay and Agnes his wife, levied a fine to William de Cauz of the eighth part of a fee in Plumpton and Blakesley, which Sibilla and Agnes claimed as their share of the inheritance from sir Robert de Plumpton their father^l. By an agreement without date between this William de Cauz and William de St. John, reciting that, the said Cauz believing he had a right to the capital messuage in Plumpton by reason of having a son born of the eldest daughter of sir Robert de Plumpton, who died before her father, and the said St. John believing he had a right to it, through Sarah his wife, who was the eldest of the sisters living at the father's death, with the advice and council of good men, the said William de Cauz released for himself and his son to William de St. John and Sarah his wife, all his claim in a moiety of the said capital messuage, and St. John quitclaimed to Cauz the other moiety, under a forfeiture of 50 mks. (£33. 6s. 8d.) towards the building of the church of Westminster, and the same sum towards the building of the monastery of Heyle (Hailes in Gloucestershire), and they empowered the king and R. earl of Cornwall to levy the said forfeiture on the lands and tenements of the defaulter^k. Robert de Cauz, son of William, Alice widow of Robert de Burcot, and Richard de la Hay executed releases to

William de St. John^k, who eventually acquired the entire manor of Plumpton. Sir John de Wahull or Wodhull granted to him by the name of William de St. John, son of sir John de St. John of Hameldon (Rutlandshire) the stewardship of his manor of Wahull, or Odell in Bedfordshire, and of all the *barony* belonging to the said manor^k;

* Morton, p. 71.

^b Domesd. fo. 222 b.

^c Ibid. fo. 227 b.

^d Ibid. fo. 227 b.

^e Ibid. fo. 226 b.

^f Dr. 1, p. 333.

^g Cotton. MSS. Vesp. E. xxi. fo. 95 b.

^h Test. Nev. fo. 117.

ⁱ Hatton. MSS. "Fin. 41 Hen. 3."

^j Ex chartis Val. Knightley.

^k mil. 1614.

^l Vide *Tuxford*, vol. 1, p. 711.

^m Vide vol. 1, p. 426.

and in 16 Edw. 1 (1288) the same sir John de Wodhull granted to Lawrence le Riche of Brackley, the custody of the lands of the fee of Wodhull belonging to the late William de St. John in Plumpton and elsewhere, together with the marriage of William, the son of John de St. John, grandson of the said William, till he attained his full age¹. In 9 Edw. 2 (1315) this *William de St. John* was lord of Plumpton¹; and in 1 Edw. 3 (1327) his son of the same name had a grant of free warren in Plumpton, Blakesley, Morton Pinkney, and Middleton Chenduit¹. He died in 5 Edw. 3 (1331) seised of the manor of Plumpton, held of sir John de Wodhull by service of half a fee, heaving in 5 Edw. 3 *Giles de St. John*, his son and heir, a minor², who, on the collection of the aid for knighting the king's son in 20 Edw. 3 (1346) was charged only for the fourth of a fee³, a discrepancy, however, by no means uncommon. His daughter and heiress *Margaret*, married

William de Harwedon, and in 2 Hen. 4 (1401) was found heir of her grandmother, Isabella St. John⁴, a coheirss of Combemartin, of STOKES BRUERE.

⁴ In the fourteenth year of Henry IV. it was found by inquisition that *Thomas Dyster* died seised of one cottage, two crofts, and an annual rent of xxs. issuing from one messuage and one virgate of land in Plumpton, with the reversion of the said messuage and virgate after the death of *Thomas and John Clerie*, who held the same for their respective lives, and that the residue of the profits from thence arising was received by *William Harwedon*. A mandate was thereupon issued to the sheriff to enter upon the premises, and to summon the said *William* to account for the profits before the Barons of his Majesty's exchequer⁵. But in the sixth year of Henry V. the custody of the said messuage and lands were committed to *William Harwedon* and *Margery* his wife, till judgment should be given whether the premises belonged to them, or were the right of the King⁶. The manor of Plumpton continued in the male line of the above William and Margery Harwedon till the failure of issue in their grandson sir *Thomas Harwedon* in 1 Hen. 7 (1485) when it passed with the other family estates to his sister and heiress *Margaret*, successively the wife of *Henry Skenard*, esq. and *William Garnon*, esq. but at that time a widow aged sixty years⁷. By her first husband, she had an only daughter and heiress *Joan*, who carried the manors of Plumpton, Middleton Chenduit⁸, Morton Pinkney⁹, Harrowden, Wold, a third of the manors of Stoke Bruere and Alderton, with lands in various places, in marriage to

Sir Richard Knightley, of FAWLEY¹. In Mar. 30 Hen. 8 (1538-9) dame *Jane* or *Joan Knightley*, for so she indifferently described herself in this deed, widow of sir Richard Knightley, settled (int. al.) her manor and advowson of Plumpton on her son Edmond Knightley in tail male, remainder to her son Valentine Knightley in tail male², whose grandson *Sir Valentine Knightley* obtained a licence of alienation in 2 Jac. 6 (1604) to sell them to *Sir Roger Wilbraham*³, of Bridgmore in Cheshire, and NEWBOTTLE⁴.

PLUMPTON, ST. JOHN, HARWEDON, SKENARD, OR SKINNERTON, AND KNIGHTLEY OF PLUMPTON, &c.

From Knightley evidences, with additions from public records and other authorities.

Arms. PLUMPTON. Azure, five lozenges in fess Or, charged with as many mullets Gules. ST. JOHN. Gules, two bars Argent, a canton Ermine. HARWEDON. Argent, a bend counter-comparty Or and Gules. SKENARD. Sable, a chevron Gules between three hawks' lures Argent. KNIGHTLEY. Quarterly, first and fourth Ermine, second and third pale of six Or and Gules.

ROBERT DE PLUMPTON, of Plumpton, -----				SIMON DE HARWEDON, of Harwedon or Harrowden, -----			
1. WILLIAM DE PLUMPTON, of Plumpton, temp. Hen. 3, gave the advowson to Wedon priory, ob. v. p.	2. ROBERT DE PLUMPTON, of Plumpton, living 7 Joh. (1305), & 3 Hen. 3 (1218), b. in Ashby Canons priory.	WALTER DE PLUMPTON.	ANKETILL DE PLUMPTON.	ADAM DE HARWEDON, of Harwedon, (11 Joh.) b. in St. James's abbey near Northampton.	MARGERY, dau. & h. of Wido de Waverille.	JOAN, 11 Joh. 11 Joh.	JOAN, 11 Joh. 11 Joh.
SIR JOHN DE JULIANA, d. of St. John, of Ralph Tallard, of Hameldon, co. Rutl.	1. W. ALICE, d. of Sir ROBERT DE PLUMPTON, of Plumpton, liv. ing 27 Hen. 3 (1242).	2. W. EMMA, survived her husband.	SIMON DE HARWEDON, of Harwedon, 11 Hen. 3 (1227).	MATILDA, d. of Ralph de Keimars.	2. JOHN DE MABIL, 11 Joh. 11 Joh.	JOAN, 11 Joh. 11 Joh.	JOAN, 11 Joh. 11 Joh.
WILLIAM DE ST. JOHN, of Hameldon, co. Rutl. steward to John baron Wodhull, living 13 Edw. 1 (1285) dead 16 Edw. 1 (1286).	SARAH, 2d dau. & coh. of Wido de Hameldon, co. Rutl. will dat. 1293 (11 Edw. 1), liv. ing 13 Edw. 1 (1285), bur. at Plumpton, living 12 Edw. 1 (1284).	EMMA, old. estd. & coh. ob. v. p.	WILLIAM DE CAUZ, 3d d. & coh. j.w. of Dutton, living 41 Hen. 3 (1256), bur. at Plumpton, living 12 Edw. 1 (1284).	ALICE, 3d d. & coh. j.w. of Robert de Barcot, living 41 Hen. 3 (1256), bur. at Plumpton, living 12 Edw. 1 (1284).	ADAM DE HARWEDON, of Harwedon, 11 Hen. 3 (1227).	2. RICHARD DE HARWEDON, of Harwedon, 11 Hen. 3 (1227).	2. RICHARD DE HARWEDON, of Harwedon, 11 Hen. 3 (1227).
SIR JOHN DE ST. JOHN, of Plumpton, ob. v. p.	MATILDA, d. of Robert Fitz-Nigel.	2. ROBERT DE ST. JOHN, of Plumpton; living 12 Edw. 1 (1284) & 1 Edw. 3 (1327).	SIMON DE HARWEDON, of Harwedon, 11 Hen. 3 (1227).	ADAM DE HARWEDON, of Harwedon, 11 Hen. 3 (1227).	ROBERT DE HARWEDON, of Harwedon, 11 Hen. 3 (1227).	JOAN DE HARWEDON, of Harwedon, 11 Hen. 3 (1227).	JOAN DE HARWEDON, of Harwedon, 11 Hen. 3 (1227).
WILLIAM DE ST. ISMANIA, d. of Plumpton, within age 16 Edw. 1 (1286), liv. ing 9 Edw. 2 (1315).	SARAH, living 16 Edw. 1 (1286), got. occurs 2 (1327).	RICHARD DE HARWEDON, of Harwedon, 11 Hen. 3 (1227).	MARIL, d. of ... mar. 32 Edw. 1 (1303); liv. ing 6 Edw. 3 (1332).	ADAM DE HARWEDON, of Harwedon, 11 Hen. 3 (1227).	ROBERT DE HARWEDON, of Harwedon, 11 Hen. 3 (1227).	JOAN DE HARWEDON, of Harwedon, 11 Hen. 3 (1227).	JOAN DE HARWEDON, of Harwedon, 11 Hen. 3 (1227).
WILLIAM DE ST. ISABELLA, 2d d. & coh. of Wido de Hameldon, co. Rutl. will dat. 1293 (11 Edw. 1), liv. ing 13 Edw. 1 (1285), dead 16 Edw. 1 (1286).	SARAH, living 16 Edw. 1 (1286), got. occurs 2 (1327).	RICHARD DE HARWEDON, of Harwedon, 11 Hen. 3 (1227).	MARIL, d. of ... mar. 32 Edw. 1 (1303); liv. ing 6 Edw. 3 (1332).	ADAM DE HARWEDON, of Harwedon, 11 Hen. 3 (1227).	ROBERT DE HARWEDON, of Harwedon, 11 Hen. 3 (1227).	JOAN DE HARWEDON, of Harwedon, 11 Hen. 3 (1227).	JOAN DE HARWEDON, of Harwedon, 11 Hen. 3 (1227).
WILLIAM DE ST. ISABELLA, 2d d. & coh. of Wido de Hameldon, co. Rutl. will dat. 1293 (11 Edw. 1), liv. ing 13 Edw. 1 (1285), dead 16 Edw. 1 (1286).	SARAH, living 16 Edw. 1 (1286), got. occurs 2 (1327).	RICHARD DE HARWEDON, of Harwedon, 11 Hen. 3 (1227).	MARIL, d. of ... mar. 32 Edw. 1 (1303); liv. ing 6 Edw. 3 (1332).	ADAM DE HARWEDON, of Harwedon, 11 Hen. 3 (1227).	ROBERT DE HARWEDON, of Harwedon, 11 Hen. 3 (1227).	JOAN DE HARWEDON, of Harwedon, 11 Hen. 3 (1227).	JOAN DE HARWEDON, of Harwedon, 11 Hen. 3 (1227).

¹ Ex chartis Val. Knightley, mss. 1614.

² Islam MSS. No. 36, p. 194. "Comp. Wals. Parlat."

³ Ibid. "Rot. Fin. anno 6 Hen. V. in Tur. Lond."

⁴ Vide vol. 1, p. 652. + Vide vol. 2, p. 51.

⁵ Cardigan MSS. Non. Vill. p. 8.

⁶ Esc. 2 Hen. 4, n. 33.

⁷ Esc. 2 Hen. 7, n. 51.

⁸ Vide vol. 1, p. 301.

⁹ Cart. 1 Edw. 3, n. 15.

¹⁰ Esc. 1, p. 253.

¹¹ Esc. anno 14 Hen. IV. n. 7 & anno 4 Hen. V. n. 567.

¹² Pat. 20 Nov. 2 Jac. p. 2.

¹³ Esc. 3 Edw. 3, n. 30, & 12 Edw. 3, n. 16.

¹⁴ Esc. 1, p. 253.

¹⁵ Pat. 20 Nov. 2 Jac. p. 2.

¹⁶ Esc. 3 Edw. 3, n. 30, & 12 Edw. 3, n. 16.

Plumpton^k; and when they were summoned by writ of *quo warranto* in 3 Edw. 3 (1329) to shew their right to free warren in the above places, the jury presented that all their lands in Plumpton had been alienated, except a certain wood which remained in their possession, and in which they had free warren^l.

Plumpton is a member of the honor of Grafton, and of the sectional court annually held at Morton Pinkeney.

THE MANOR HOUSE is reduced to a farm house, but still retains some traces of its former character.

THE VILLAGE is four miles from Towcester. Bridges says, 'in the town are nine houses, with three innships in the grounds; but the tradition of the place is, that it was formerly a more considerable village^m.' By the census of 1801 it contained 10 houses and 56 inhabitants; and by that of 1811, 12 houses and 50 inhabitants; by that of 1821, 13 houses and 63 inhabitants; and by that of 1831, 14 houses and 75 inhabitants. The annual quota of land tax for this parish is £84. 7s. 10d. at 4s. in the £. The estimated value of real property as assessed to the property tax of 10 per cent. for the year ending April 1815, amounted to £1000. The poor's rates for the year ending April 1832, raised £135 at 3s. 6d. in the £. The wake follows the decollation of St. John the baptist.

THE ADVOWSON. William de Plumpton, for the health of his soul and the soul of Robert his brother and heir, gave to the monks of the blessed Mary of Wedon (Pinkeney) the "chapel" of Plumpton with all obventions and tithes as well of his demesne as of his rustics in lands and meadows and pastures, in wood and in plains, saving the right of Mast. Richard de Aissefordsbi, who held the chapel under an annual pension of 5s. to the said monks as long as he continued a secular and wished to hold it, and afterwards when the chapel should fall to the monks, they should have full and perpetual administration with the burial of bodies as in the mother church. The deed is witnessed by Alexander prior of Ashby, William vicar of Wedon, and othersⁿ. In 40 Hen. 3 (1255) Baldwin prior of Wedon^o, and in 45 Hen. 3 (1260) Matthew prior of Wedon^p levied a fine of this advowson to John Sampson. The prior, however, subsequently re-claimed it; in 1273 David, son of Griffin lord of Norton, recovered the presentation against the prior of Wedon^q, probably on the ground of Plumpton being a parochial member of the mother church of Norton, for in 29 Edw. 3 (1355) sir Henry Green, of Norton, levied a fine of this advowson^r, and in 45 Edw. 3 (1371) his son, sir Thomas Green, was found to hold the manor of Norton, with the advowsons of Norton and Plumpton to the said manor belonging^s. Notwithstanding this claim, all the presentations to the rectory from 1326 were made by the lords of Plumpton, and the advowson uniformly attended the manor down to the sale in 1818, when the advowson was reserved, and is now (1834) vested in the rev. Benjamin Hill, and his brother George Hill, esq.

THE RECTORY is in the deanry of Brackley. In the taxation of 1254 (38 Hen. 3)^t and of 1291 (20 Edw. 1)^u, it was rated at 7 marks (£4. 13s. 4d.) *per ann.*; and in the ecclesiastical survey of 1535 (26 Hen. 8) at £8 *per ann.* deducting 10s. 7d. for synodals and procurations to the archdeacon of Northampton^v. The parliamentary commissioners in 1655 certified it to be a parsonage presentative, late in the patronage of sir Henry Delves, bart. who had sold the lordship to Edward Onslow [Onley], esq. the present patron, and that Mr. William Wildinge, the incumbent, supplied the cure, which was worth £40 yearly^w.

It is a discharged living, being certified under the act 5 Anne (1707) to be only of the clear yearly value of £12. 9s. 6d. *per ann.* In the return of livings under £150 *per ann.* in 1809 it was entered of the clear yearly value of £117. The rectory now consists of 105 a. 2 r. 28 p. of land awarded in 1781 by the commissioners for inclosing woodland in Blakesley, out of the old inclosures of Plumpton, in exchange for the great and small tithes issuing out of the several estates in Plumpton.

There is no rectory house.

INCUMBENTS. *Simon de Northampton*, subdeacon, by Nicholas prior of Wedon, procurator of the abbot and convent of St. Lucien, 1229.

Hugh de Cave, subdeacon, by David son of Griffin, who recovered the presentation against the prior of Wedon Pinkeney 24 Nov. 1273.

Thomas de Cave, by lady Elizabeth de Ferrars 30 March 1285.

Mastr Thomas de Sutton, by the bishop, by reason of disagreement as to the right of patronage between lady Elizabeth de Ferrers, widow of sir William de Marcescall, and sir Hugh de Cave, 26 Oct. 1297. He was rector of Walgrave from 1295 to 1316.

William Turvill, acolyte, by William de St. John, 14 December 1326.

John de Boreham, by the king, by reason of the wardship of the heir of William de St. John, 1 May 1341.

William Hyde, by sir Giles de St. John, 14 Nov. 1368.

He was rector of Holdenby from 1354 to 1361.

William Meyer, chaplain, by Isabella, widow of William de St. John, 21 Feb. 1368.

Sir John de Salewarp, 7 Dec. 1369.

John de Petham, priest, by Richard de Piryton, 18 March 1371.

Giles Perkins, priest, 6 Dec. 1380.

Sir John Boys.

Richard Lorde, chaplain, by Isabella de St. John, lady of Plumpton, 12 Dec. 1398.

John Molyngton, priest, by William Harwedon, 31 Jan. 1444.

William May, by Margery Harwedon. He was rector of Croughton from 1451 to 1455.

Thomas Farman, chaplain, 10 July 1451.

Sir John Clerk, priest, 19 May 1473.

John Lynne, by Margery Garnon.

Sir George Greene, priest, 17 Dec. 1496.

^k Inq. ad q. d. 17 Edw. 2, n. 173, & Pat. 18 Edw. 2, p. 1, m. 17.
^l Hatton MSS. "Fin. 40 Hen. 3." ^p Ibid. "Fin. 45 Hen. 3."
^o Hatton MSS. O. ^q Cotton. MSS. Nero D. x. fo. 179.

^t Quo Warr. 3. Edw. 3. ^u Br. 1, p. 252. ^v Brit. Mus. V. 34.
^w Reg. Ric. Gravesend Ep. Linc. ^x Hatton MSS. "Fin. 29 Edw. 3."
^y Tax. Eccl. p. 38. ^z Augm. Off. ^{aa} Lambeth MSS. vol. 20.

Ralph Road, alias *Rodys*, by sir Edmund Knightley, occurs 1535. He was vicar of Fawsley from 1523 till his decease, when

Thomas Croke, or *Croke*, was presented to this benefice by sir Edmund Knightley, and instituted 15 June 1542. He was chantry priest at Wedon in 1535. His death introduced

Edmund Perton, who was inst. 14 Jan. 1557, on the presentation of sir Valentine Knightley. On his resignation

John Cruse, A.B. was presented by the same patron, and inst. 26 Apr. 1564.

Robert Craine was presented by sir Richard Knightley, and inst. 19 Aug. 1573, on the decease of the last incumbent.

William Woode was presented by sir Richard Knightley, and inst. 14 Aug. 1576 on the death of the last incumbent. He was rector of Middleton Chenduit from 1579 to 1633. He resigned, and

John Elliston was inst. 20 Apr. 1586, on the presentation of Valentine Knightley, esq. He was vicar of Preston Capes from 1581 to 1585. On his resignation

Arthur Coldcote was presented by the same patron, then sir Valentine Knightley; and inst. 31 July 1604.

Joseph Beeke was presented by sir Roger Wilbraham, and inst. 23 Sept. 1608, on the resignation of the last incumbent. He resigned, and was succeeded by

George Adams, A.M. who was inst. 2 Oct. 1611, on the presentation of the same patron. He obtained the vicarage of Staverton in 1615, and resigning this benefice,

Thomas Lewes, A.M. was presented by the same patron, and inst. 19 Jan. 1615. He was rector of Lilford in 1630. On his resignation

George Dixe, A.B. was inst. 9 Sept. 1634, on the pre-

sentation of sir Thomas Delves, bart. and Mary his wife (widow of sir Roger Wilbraham).

William Wilding occurs in 1655.

Maurice Holding, of New coll. Oxf. A.M. was inst. 10 Nov. 1673.

Timothy Rainbow was presented by Horace Moore, esq. and inst. 9 Sept. 1681, on the death of the last incumbent. His death introduced

William Hiccock, of Lincoln coll. Oxf. A.M. who was inst. 14 Dec. 1702, on the presentation of Horace Moore, esq. Gerard Conyers, merchant, and Thomas Burgh, esq. He was buried at Wedon Pinkeney 18 April, 1720, and

David Pratt, A.B. of Oriel coll. Oxf. A.M. was presented by Thomas Busby, gent. and inst. 26 Sept. following. He was vicar of Blakesley from 1744, and held both benefices till his death, when he was succeeded here by

Samuel West, rector of Maidford, who was inst. 1 Oct. 1753, on the presentation of Edward Busby, of Banbury, gent. He was buried at Maidford, 3 Dec. 1767; and his successor in this benefice,

James Eyre, of Merton coll. Oxf. A.M. rector of Padbury in Buckinghamshire, was presented by the same patron, and inst. on the 15th of the same month. He died 9 Aug. 1785, and

Benjamin Hill was inst. 6 Sept. following, on his own presentation. He died 4 May 1815, when

Thomas Watts was presented by Benjamin Hill, of Northampton, esq. and George Hill, lieut. 88th foot, and inst. 2 Jan. 1816. On his cession,

Benjamin Hill, of Brasenose coll. Oxf. A.M. was presented by himself and George Hill, esq. and inst. 9 June 1820. He is also rector of Collingtree.

THE REGISTER of baptisms commences in 1749, of marriages in 1754, and of burials in 1682.

THE COMMUNION PLATE, comprising a chalice, salver, and paten, is inscribed, "The gift of Horatio Moore, Esq. and Anne his wife, to the Communion table of Plumpton 1693." Arms. Argent, two bars between nine martlets Gules. *Moore*.

THE OLD CHURCH, dedicated to St. John Baptist, consisted of a nave and south aisle and chapel, to the completion of which William de St. John in 1327 bequeathed £10, and chancel. At the west end was a wooden turret tiled. The interior was in a very dilapidated state. The church and chancel were 66ft. 7in. long, and the nave and aisle 23ft. 4in. wide. The nave was divided from the aisle by two pointed arches on octagonal pillars with plain capitals; and at the east end of the aisle was a piscina. The present church was built in 1822, and consists of a tower, nave, and chancel. The tower is 6ft. 4in. long, and 7ft. wide; the nave 31ft. 2in. long, and 16ft. 6in. wide; and the chancel 16ft. 2in. long, and 12ft. 10in. wide. The interior is neatly paved and pewed.

MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS.

NAVE. I. On the east wall is a white marble mantle inscribed:

Anne Moore.

Here in her Ashes, A young Phenix lyes,
But An Eternal phenix thence shall lyes;
Propriety in Blisse Age pleads in Vain,
To Little Ones God's Kingdom doth pertain.
See here the Best I'll leust of Adam's Race,
Whose heaven contracted in a Babe of Grace;
But such perfections leust We do adore,
We only see to imitate and see no more.
View here Mysterious Fates to [too] knowing Rage,
An infant body had A Soule at Age;
And yet A Body so refin'd and Tryed,
In sickness (death's Alembicke) Rarefyed;
That th' innate soule grown Jealous of its Host,
Return'd to God & here left Dust to Dust.

Read then death's Impartiall Rod,
Thus liv'd thus Dyed a Lambe of God.
The Cask decays, the Jewell's fled,
The Soules at Rest, the Rest is dead.
Obiit Decimo Julii.
1683.

Bridges records the following inscriptions in the old church, within the rails of the altar:

Here lieth the body of Anne Harrington, daughter to Edward Harrington, Esquire, who dyed 11th March 1704-5.

'Near the above is the following inscription:

Here lieth the body of Richard Reeve, the hopeful son of Richard Reeve, Esq. and Anne his wife, aged 9 years, 3 months, 11 days. Obiit ult. Mæi 1680.

And near this place under this stone adjoining lieth the body of Anne, sister to the said Richard.

* On a marble in the chancel are these arms:

Ermine, on two Bars six Elm leaves. Crest, out of a ducal coronet the upper part of a woman with her hair disheveled.

and the following inscription underneath on a brass tablet:

JOHN ELMES, ESQUIRE, DYED THE
XXX OF SEPTEMBER, ANNO DOMINI
1655, AGED 53 YEARS.

* On a free stone near the middle of the chancel:

Here lyeth the body of William Rainbow [die son of Timothy

Rainbow] late Rector of Plumpton, who was born 27 April 1689, and died 9 May 1710.

* Collateral to the above:

Hic jacet

Reverendus admodum Vir Timotheus Rainbow,
Hujus Ecclesie Pastor
Nec non Scholæ Prestonienſis
..... Hyperdidaculus
..... commissum
..... curâ entitvit
..... An. 1703.

BENEFACTIONS. (Vide p. 2.) LEESON'S CHARITY. The sum of 10s. a year received under this charity for the poor of Plumpton, is regularly distributed in money or bread at the church. The sum of £5, the gift of some person unknown, is in the hands of one of the churchwardens, and 4s. paid yearly as interest of the money, is distributed with Leeson's charity.

The above are all the present benefactions; but Bridges states, that 'the sum of xs. yearly was left by Mrs. Leeson to this parish. A benefaction of xls. a year by Mr. Willden, and a like benefaction of xls. was given by Mr. Eves. These, with other charities, amounting in the whole to about xivl. per annum, are distributed at Christmas to the poor*.'

SLAPTON

is a small parish containing only about 610 acres. The open fields were inclosed by act of parliament in 32 Geo. 2 (1759). The principal proprietors are Samuel Amy Severne, esq. lord of the manor, who has about 130 acres; the rev. Thomas Coleman Welch, of Pateshull, the rector, who has about 105 acres in right of his church, and about 60 acres of freehold; and Mr. Richard Henson, who has nearly 100 acres. It is bounded on the north by Woodend, in Blakesley; east by Braden; south by Abthorp in Towcester hundred; and south-west and west by Wappenham in Sutton hundred. The soil does not materially differ from Plumpton. There is a watermill at the entrance of the village from Wappenham.

MANORIAL HISTORY. CHESTER FEE OR HONOR OF CHESTER*. "Slaptone" was held with sac and soc by *Aschil*† before the Norman conquest. It was then rated at £3 yearly, and the same valuation was continued at the domesday survey, when it was held with the same privileges by *Gozelin* under earl Hugh (of Chester). It contained four hides. The arable land was ten carucates, of which two were in demesne with three servants; and two in the occupation of six villeins and a bordar; leaving six waste or unaccounted for. There were eight acres of meadow‡. In the hydariam of Hen. 2, the four hides in Slapton are through an error, probably of the copyist of the record, stated to be of the fee of Leicester§, instead of Chester. In the Testa de Nevill about 27 Hen. 3 (1242) Geoffrey de Lucy was found to hold one fee in Slapton of Hugh de Albini, earl of Arundel, of the honor of Chester; in the book of knight's fees 24 Edw. 1 (1295) his great-grandson sir Geoffrey de Lucy answered for one fee here of the same honor¶; and amongst the knight's fees of the late Edward prince of Wales and earl of Chester in 2 Ric. 2 (1378) was one fee in Slapton in the tenure of sir Geoffrey de Lucy§.

MANOR. From *Gozelin* the domesday mesne lord, this manor descended lineally to the baronial family of *Lucy*, as exhibited in the pedigree under DALLINGTON†. Sir *Geoffrey de Lucy*, son of sir Geoffrey, the third husband of Juliana Despenser, in whom the representation of *Gozelin* was vested, died in 1 Edw. 1 (1272-3) seized (int. al.) of the manor and advowson of Slapton, held of the honor of Chester. By an extent of the manor then taken, there were eleven virgates of arable land in demesne, each containing fourteen acres, and twenty villeins had each a virgate of the same quantity at the yearly rent of 5s. The whole value, with the several rents and profits, was rated at £16. 12s. 6d. yearly*. His great-grandson sir *Geoffrey de Lucy* in 6 Edw. 3 (1332) obtained a grant of free warren in Slapton and Dallington, and various places in other counties‡. On the extinction of the male line by the death of sir *William Lucy* in 38 Hen. 6 (1460)† his patrimony devolved in moieties on his niece

Elizabeth, daughter of his sister Eleanor, then wife of sir Roger Corbet, and afterwards of John (Tiptoft) earl of Worcester, and sir William Stanley; and his nephew sir *William Vaux*, son of his sister Matilda‡. *Elizabeth*, countess of Worcester, then widow of sir William Stanley, died in 13 Hen. 7 (1498) and was succeeded in her moiety of Slapton by

Sir *Robert Corbet* her grandson and heir by her first husband§; but by some subsequent arrangement the entire manor and advowson came into possession of

* Br. 1, p. 226.

* Domesd. fo. 324 b.

† Cotton. MSS. Vesp. E. xxij. fo. 95 b.

* Cardigan MSS. Nom. Vill. p. 65.

* Esc.

‡ Ric. 2, n. 37.

* Esc. 1 Edw. 1, n. 32.

† Cart. 6 Edw. 3, n. 32.

* Esc. 1 Edw. 4, n. 16 & 6 Edw. 4, n. 29.

* Esc. 14 Hen. 7, n. 136.

* Vide BUCKINGHAM, vol. 1, p. 121, & DORSETSHIRE, vol. 1, p. 478.

† Vide BYFIELD, vol. 1, p. 484.

‡ Vide vol. 1, p. 130.

The King¹. In 7 Eliz. (1564-5) the manor and advowson of Slapton, formerly parcel of the possessions of sir Thomas Pope deceased, and late before of sir Thomas Vaux lord Harrowden deceased, and parcel of the honor of Grafton, were (*int. al.*) granted to

Sir Henry Wallop, of Farley Wallop in Hampshireⁿ, and of DALLINGTON †; of whose son and heir *Robert Wallop*, esq. and his mortgagees, they were purchased in July 1650 by

John Thompson, gent.^o who conveyed them in Apr. 1653 to

*John Thompson, gent.^o who conveyed them in Apr. 1655 to
Henry Gastrell, esq. from whom they descended agreeably to the subjoined pedigree to his grandson Peregrine
Gastrell, esq.*

GASTRELL OF SLAPTON.

From visitations, title deeds, and parish registers of Fawsley*, Preston Capes†, Morton Pinkeney‡, Daventry§, Wappenham||, and Newbottle**.

Arms. Chequy Argent and Sable, on a chief Or three bucks' heads couped of the Second.
Crest. A lion's head erased Proper, gorged with a chaplet Vert.

WALTER GASTRELL, $\overline{\text{T}}$

RICHARD GASTRELL, of Tetbury, co. Gloc. $\overline{\text{T}}$

JOHN GASTRELL, of Shipton Moyne, co. Gloc. gent. — ANNE, d. of John Dyer, of Malmesbury, co. Wilts.

JOHN GASTRELL, of Shipton, Shropshire, 1820.				
1. RICHARD GASTRELL, of Shipton-Moyne, co. Gloc. esq.	2. EDWARD GASTRELL.	4. HENRY GASTRELL.	6. GEORGE GASTRELL.	GERTRUDE.
ANNE, d. & h. of ... Butler, of Badminton, co. Gloc.	3. WALTER GASTRELL.	5. WALTER GASTRELL.		

1. FAHIAN GASTRELL, of Tetbury, co. Gloc. esq. ob. v. p.	2. NICHOLAS GASTRELL.	3. DEVEREUX GASTRELL.	4. JOHN GASTRELL.	5. RACHEL, w. of Richard Pitman.
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1. KNIGHTLEY GASTRELL, esq. wt. 17, 1623.	2. JOHN GASTRELL.	3. HENRY GASTRELL, of East Garston, co. Berks, esq.
PERGRINE GASTRELL, of East-JANE, eldest d. of Richard Knightley of Burgh hall, co. = 2 h. rev. JOHN THOMPSON, or TOMPHSON, vicar of Preston Garston, co. Berks, esq. mar.* Staff. & of Fawsley, esq. bur.+ 26 Feb. 1652-3. Capes; mar.+ 1 Oct. 1644; bur.+ 27 June 1667. 29 Mar 1631; living 1635.		

HENRY GASTRELL, of Slap—ELIZABETH, d. of Edward Bagshaw, of 2 h. rev. WILLIAM WEST (4th son of Thomas West, of Cotton End, esq.) rector
 ten. ecc. 10 June 1653. Morton Pinkney, esq.; living 1684. of Slapton & vicar of Preston Capes; mar. 3 Nov. 1670; bur. 17 Jan. 1698-9.

1. EDWARD GASTRELL, of Slatton, esq. bapt. 29 Jan. 1654; mar. 1678; living 1684.	2. ELIZABETH=3 h. ELIS WALKER, esq. living 1684; dead 1707.	Rt. rev. FRANCIS GASTRELL, D.D., born at Slatton 1662; canon of Chester ch. Oxf. 1712; bishop of Exeter 1714; ob. 15 Nov. 1725; bur. in Christ ch. cathedral, Oxf.	ELIZABETH MAPLETOFT, of Greenwich; mar. 20 Aug. 1703 at St. Helen's, Bishopsgate; ob. 31 Jan. 1761.	ELIZABETH.	JANE, unm. 1680; qu. w. of Henry Hand, of co. Worc. esq.
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1. HENRY GASTRELL, esq; living 1684; ob. s. p.	2. PEREGRIN GASTRELL, of Slapton, esq. afterwards of Tackley, co. Oxon, & of Purston, chancellor of Chester; ob. 23 July 1747; bur. at Chester.	— ELIZABETH, d. of; mrr. 1702; bur. in Chester cathedral, 19 Aug. 1747.	ROBERT GASTRELL, only son, ob. 2 Dec. 1716; at 13; bur. in Christ church cath. Oxf.
1. EDWARD PEREGRINE GASTRELL, esq. bur. 3 Oct. 1704; ob. 24 Feb. 1722; bur. at Cheltenham.	JOHN GASTRELL, hap. ** 1 Dec. 1714; bur. ** 23 Apr. 1715.	SIBILLA, hap. ** 1 Dec. 1712.	

Peregrine Gastrell, esq. brother and heir of Henry Gastrell deceased, who was son and heir of Edward Gastrell, esq. deceased, and Elizabeth Walker widow, formerly wife of the said Edward, sold the manor of Slapton (reserving the advowson) in Mar. 1707 to

William Foster, gent. who mortgaged it in 1709, and, on condition of paying off this mortgage, together with his other debts, and providing him with board, clothing, and lodging for life, or in lieu thereof paying him £20 yearly, conveyed it to his nephew

Thomas Watts, of Slapton, yeoman, of whom and the mortgagee it was purchased by

John Woodhull, esq.; and from whom it has passed by the same title as THENFORD§ to *Samuel Amy Severne, esq.* the present proprietor (1834).

The family of KNIGHT had a considerable estate here, which they retained till the close of the last century. They entered their pedigree in the heralds' visitations, and bore for their arms, Ar. on a fesse between three bulls' heads erased S. ringed at the nose O. a fret between two birds of the Field. 'P In the eleventh year of *Charles I. Thomas Knight* claimed common of pasture in *Whitlewood*, which he had a right to from prescription, for three messuages, four closes, six virgates, and two acres of land in *Slapton*.'

THE MANOR HOUSE stood west of the church yard.

THE VILLAGE is in a valley, four miles from Towcester. In the time of Bridges there were 'about thirty-four families, of whom five or six were freeholders.' By the census of 1801, it contained 34 houses and 135 inhabitants; by that of 1811, 45 houses and 185 inhabitants; by that of 1821, the same number of houses and 201 inhabitants; and by that of 1831, 46 houses and 197 inhabitants. The annual quota of land tax for this parish is £52. 11s. 10d.

¹ Esc. 16 Hen. 8, n. 60.

^k Hatton MSS. "Fin. Hill, 27 Hen. 8."

¹ Ibid. "Fin. Mich. 29 Hen. 8."

¹⁰ Pat. 29 Jan. 7 Eliz. p. 2.

^a Carter evidences.

the evidences. P

† Br. 1, p. 253. † Elacit. Forest. de Whittlewood anno 11 Car. 1, p. 16.

16; 8 Br. 1, n. 256.

* Vide WALTON

+ Vide DALLINGTON, vol. 1, p. 130. † Vide ENGORE, vol. 1, p. 49d.

* Vide *Encyclop.* vol. 1. p. 494.

6. Vide vol. I, p. 712.

at 4s. in the £. The estimated value of real property as assessed to the property tax of 10 per cent. for the year ending April 1815 amounted to £797. The poor rates for the year ending Easter 1832 raised £192. 4s. 8d. at 8s. in the £. The wake is kept on the Sunday before Midsummer day.

THE ADVOWSON was reserved on the sale of the manor in 1707 by Peregrine Gastrell, esq. but sold by him in Nov. 1709 to John Welch, of Blakesley, gent.* from whom it has lineally descended to the rev. Thomas Coleman Welch, the present patron and incumbent.

THE RECTORY is in the deanry of Brackley. In the taxations of 1254 (38 Hen. 3)* and of 1291 (20 Edw. 1)† it was rated at 7 marks (£4. 13s. 4d.) per ann.; and in the ecclesiastical survey of 1535 (26 Hen. 8) at £10. 0s. 4d. per ann. deducting 10s. 7d. for sinodals and procurations to the archdeacon of Northampton‡. The parliamentary commissioners in 1655 certified it to be an appropriate parsonage presentative in the patronage of Mr. Henry Gastrell; that Timothy Hart the incumbent supplied the cure, which was worth £40 yearly; and that there was no chapel of ease. It was certified under the act of 5 Anne (1707) to be of the clear yearly value of £60. It has been exonerated from the land tax by the commissioners appointed 46 Geo. 3 (1806) on which occasion it was entered of the clear yearly value of £105. 4s. 1d. The rectory now consists of 115 a. or. 23 p. of land allotted by the commissioners of inclosure in lieu of the glebe lands and of the tithe of both the old and new inclosures. The rectory house is a small mean building east of the church yard.

William de Hannington, by Geoffrey de Lucy, 1265. He was rector of Hanington from 1267 to 1285, and of Wold 1274 to 1300.

Mast. Lucas de Hannington, 23 Oct. 1268. He was rector of Holcot from 1274 to 1298.

Mast. Andrew de Easely, subdeacon, 29 June 1275. He exchanged for the vicarage of Flore with

Thomas de Aete, chaplain, by lady Elena de Lucy, 15 Oct. 1288.

Adam de Holcote, subdeacon, 17 Dec. 1289. He was rector of Wilby 1289 to 1290.

Ralph Powell, 24 Oct. 1290.

Sir William de Coventre, priest, by sir Geoffrey de Lucy, 15 Feb. 1326.

Nicholas Louthie, priest, 26 April 1329.

John Cockrel, priest, 15 Nov. 1361.

Richard Stoke, chaplain, by sir Walter Lucy, 9 Nov. 1401.

William Wyflete, clerk, 2 Dec. 1402.

John Draycote, 6 June 1404.

John Severy.

Robert Morton, clerk, by sir William Lucy, 3 Sept. 1450.

Sir William Brokesby.

Sir Richard Wall, priest, by sir William Stanley in right of his wife Elizabeth countess of Worcester, 13 Jan. 1490.

Sir Thomas Bowde.

Sir Edmund Lynney, chaplain, by sir Thomas Vaux, of Harrowden, 16 July 1524. He was rector of Farthingho 1540 to 1561.

Sir Thomas Collins, chaplain, 23 Oct. 1526.

Sir William Carter, 6 Nov. 1528.

Sir Thomas Nete, 18 Nov. 1532. He appears to have exchanged for the rectory of Thenford with

Mast. John Eynon, 5 April 1533.

Sir Robert Caryngworth, or *Haringworth*, by John Poynter, gent. by a grant from sir Thomas Vaux of Harrowden, 24 Sep. 1533. On his decease

Thomas Negose, or *Negus*, was presented by Humphrey Edmondes p. h. v. and inst. 5 Jan. 1558. He was vicar of Brixworth 1551 to 1556. His resignation introduced

Robert Simons, who was inst. 9 May 1564 on the presentation of the queen. On his deprivation

Nicholas Coke was presented by William Chauncy, esq. and inst. 28 Jan. 1573. He was buried here 1 May 1627 y, and

Hugh Ayleway or *Holloway*, A.M. was inst. on the 15th of the same month, on the presentation of sir Henry Wallop. He was buried here 17 June 1650 y, and was probably succeeded by

Timothy Hart, who occurs in 1655 z.

William West was presented by Edward Gastrell, esq. and inst. 25 Feb. 1668-9. He obtained the vicarage of Preston Capes in 1677, and resigning this benefice,

Josiah Bunn was inst. 10 Apr. 1678 on the presentation of the same patron. He was buried here in 1688 y, when

Thomas Rogers was presented by Elizabeth Gastrell widow, and inst. May 1689. His death introduced

John Pointer, of Merton coll. Oxf. A.M. who was inst. 27 Sept. 1694, on the presentation of Ellis Walker, esq. and Elizabeth his wife, by wardship of Peregrine Gastrell, a minor. He was author of an account of a Roman pavement lately found at Stansfield in Oxfordshire, 1713. Svo. Chronological history of England; or an impartial abstract of the most remarkable transactions that have happened in the several kings' reigns since the first attempt by Julius Caesar upon Great Britain to the end of the reign of queen Anne, 1714. 3 vol. 12mo. A rational account of the weather, shewing the signs of its several changes and alterations, together with the philosophical reasons of them. 1723. Svo. Britannia Romana; or Roman antiquities in Britain 1724, Svo. Oxoniensis Academie, or the antiquities and curiosities of the university of Oxford. 1749. Svo. He held this rectory nearly sixty years, and on his decease

Thomas Coleman Welch, of King's coll. Camb. A.M. vicar of a moiety of Pateshull, was presented by Thomas Lack of Pateshull, and inst. 1 Feb. 1754. He died in Feb. 1770, and was succeeded in both benefices by

Christopher Moor, A.B. who was inst. 3 May following, on the presentation of Thomas Welch, of Pateshull, gent. He resigned, and the patron

Thomas Welch, A.B. presented himself, and was inst. 6 Dec. 1772. He died 29 Nov. 1815, when

Charles Rose, of Lincoln coll. Oxf. A.M. was presented to both benefices by Thomas Coleman Welch, esq. and inst. 12 Mar. 1816. He is now (1834) fellow and tutor of his college, one of the king's chaplains in ordinary, and perpetual curate of Combe in Oxfordshire. On his cession, the same patron

Thomas Coleman Welch, of Queen's coll. Camb. A.M. 1823, was inst. 4 Aug. 1820 on his own presentation.

* Title deeds.

† Cotton MSS. Nero D. x. fo. 170.

‡ Tax. Eccl. p. 38.

* Augm. Off.

† Lambeth MSS. vol. 20.

‡ Par. Reg.

‡ Lambeth MSS. vol. 20.

THE REGISTERS commence in 1573, but have been very irregularly kept.

THE CHURCH dedicated to St. Botolph is a low mean edifice, and consists of a low tower, containing two bells, nave, south aisle and porch, and chancel. On the first bell is inscribed in Gothic characters, *Optima sum trina campana vocat Materiam*, and on the second, *Christe aui nas*. The tower is 10ft. 4in. long, and 6ft. 7in. wide; the nave and aisle 31 ft. 9in. long, the nave 16ft. 6in. and the aisle 14ft. 9in. wide; and the chancel 24ft. 9in. long and 13ft. 7 in. wide. The interior is paved with brick and partially paved. There is a rudely circular font. The nave is divided from the aisle by three pointed arches supported by a low circular pillar and a massive square pier. At the east end of the aisle is a piscina. The chancel is entered under a pointed arch on plain piers. Bridges says, 'in the east window of the chancel are these arms, *Argent, three crescents Gules*; and the arms of *Lucy, Gules, three pikes [or lucies], in pale between ten cross-crosslets Or.*' They have since disappeared.

MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS.

CHANCEL. I. On a monument against the north wall:

Sacred to the Memory of

SIMON and RACHEL KNIGHT

Succeeding to the Ancient Estates of his Family which he preserved and improved for his Heirs.

He retired from the practice of Surgery

But he was always ready to give his assistance to his Friends and the NECESSITIOUS.

In the discharge of many great and Important Trusts

He was INDEFATIGABLE, SUCCESSFUL, FAITHFUL.

A SURGEON; he was to the Patient a certain source of Comfort and the Hoped Relief.

A NEIGHBOUR and FRIEND; he was a rich fund of Intelligence, good Humour, and innocent pleasantry. To every Thing there is a season, and a Time to every

Purpose under Heaven. ECCLES. 94.

She was the second Daugh of ye Revd JOHN FREWIN, of Sappote in the County of LEICESTER,

Forty and four years the kind and faithful Partner of all his Hopes and Cares, his Joys and Sorrows.

She that is married, careth for the things of the world, how she may please her husband. 1 Cor. 7.

He } deceased { June 1776 } Aged { 76.
She } { July 6, 1794 } { 84.

II. On the north-east angle of the wall is a tablet inscribed:

BENEFACTIONS. (Vide p. 2). LEESON'S CHARITY. The sum of 20s. a year, received under this Charity for the poor of Slapton, is regularly distributed.

KNIGHT'S CHARITY. Thomas Knight, who died 6 May 1723, bequeathed by will 30s. a year out of land at Wappenham, to teach three poor children, to be nominated by his heirs and the owners of the land, to read English, and learn by heart the church catechism, and to buy them books. The rent-charge is regularly paid by Mr. John Parsons out of land in Wappenham allotted on the inclosure in lieu of the land mentioned in the will; and the schoolmaster teaches, with his other scholars, three or four poor children nominated by Mr. Parsons, and provides them with books.

LOST CHARITIES. No account can be obtained of the sum of £5 given by John Knight for the poor in 1640; and £20 given by Hugh Alloway for the poor in 1666 was lost through insolvency about 35 years ago.

FRANCIS GASTRELL, a learned and worthy prelate, was a younger son of Henry Gastrell, esq. and born at Slapton in 1662. From Westminster school, where he was admitted a king's scholar, he was elected student of Christ church college, Oxford, and took the degrees in arts at the statutable periods. Distinguishing himself by his pulpit eloquence, the society of Lincoln's inn, London, selected him for their preacher in 1694, and in 1697 appointed him to preach the Boyle lecture. The eight sermons delivered on this occasion he consolidated into one discourse, which he published the same year under the title of, "The certainty and necessity of religion in general; or the first grounds and principles of human duty established," in 8vo.; 2d ed. 8vo. 1703; 3d edit. fol. 1739. As this publication was principally intended to counteract atheistical notions, he very judiciously followed it up by a defence of the christian religion against deism, and in 1699 appeared, "The Christian revelation, and the necessity of believing it established: in opposition to all the evils and insinuations of such as pretend to allow Natural religion and reject the Gospel," 8vo.

In 1696 he had written, in reference to the talented dispute then carrying on between doctors Smith and Sherlock, "Some considerations concerning the Trinity, and the ways of managing that controversy," which reaching a third edition in 1707, he subjoined a vindication of it in reply to some animadversions of Anthony Collins in his essay concerning the use of reason; and in 1714 he again engaged in this controversy, and published "Remarks upon the

In memory of Mr THOMAS KNIGHT of this Parish, who departed this life May ye 6th Anno Dom: 1723, Æt 87.

And also in memory of Mrs ALICE, late wife of Mr THOMAS KNIGHT, who departed this life April ye 18th 1709, Æt 70.

Mr THOMAS KNIGHT by his last Will and testament hath given out of three quarter land in Wappenham field thirty shillings a year for ever to teach three poor children to read English and buy them books, and to learn them the Church Catechism by heart, which children are at all times to be nominated by his heirs and the owners of the said land.

III. & IV. In the north wall are two monumental arches; one of them is an ogee arch.

SLABS for,

1. Alice, late wife of Mr Tho^s Knight, 18 Apr. 1709.

2. Mr Thomas Knight, 6 May 1723, æt. 87.

CHURCH YARD. Slab for,

Rev^d Mr. John Welch, A.M. vicar of Pateshull & patron of this church, 16 May 1742, æt. 69.

scripture doctrine of the Trinity, by Dr. Samuel Clarke," who acknowledged the learning and skill as well as the becoming temper and spirit of the remarker. He proceeded D.D. in 1700, being then chaplain to the house of commons; and in 1702 was collated to a canonry of Christ church in Oxford. The work by which he is now best known, "The Christian institutes, or the sincere word of God, being a plain and impartial account of the whole faith and duty of a Christian," &c. first appeared in 1707, but it has passed through various editions. In 1714 he was elevated to the bishopric of Chester, when he resigned his office of preacher at Lincoln's inn, but was permitted to hold his canonry in commendam. In 1719 his sense of episcopal duty involved him in a contest with archbishop Wake and the crown. The rev. Samuel Peploe, a M.A. of the university of Oxford, having obtained a grant of the wardenship of Manchester college from the king, and it being a necessary qualification, according to the foundation charter, that he should take the degree of B.D. prior to institution, proceeded to Oxford for that purpose, but was called to Lambeth and there created B.D. by the archbishop, who thought the university ought, in deference to the royal nomination, to dispense with the usual exercise. With this title Mr. P. applied for institution to bishop Gastrell, as his diocesan, but *he*, being persuaded that a Lambeth degree was not a good and effectual qualification in law, refused to admit him; and Mr. P. appealed to the court of king's bench, where the decision was given in his favour. The bishop in vindication of his conduct produced a pamphlet entitled, "The bishop of Chester's case, with respect to the wardenship of Manchester, in which is shewn that no other degrees but such as are taken in the universities can be deemed legal qualifications for any ecclesiastical preferment in England." The "Case" was printed both at Oxford and Cambridge, and the former university in full convocation decreed solemn thanks to the bishop for having so fully asserted their rights, privileges, and dignities. He opposed with great firmness and spirit, the bill for inflicting pains and penalties on bishop Atterbury, though he disliked his haughty temper, and had constantly protested against his arbitrary proceedings whilst he was dean of Christ church. Dr. Gastrell was much afflicted with gout in the latter part of his life, and at length fell a sacrifice to it on the 25th of Nov. 1725. He was buried in Christ church Cathedral Oxford, and a monument with an elegant latin inscription was many years afterwards placed there to his memory. Besides the publications already noticed, he was author of a fast sermon preached before the house of commons, 1704. 4to. Another sermon, 1704, 1707. 4to. A sermon before the queen, 1712. 4to. A sermon before the house of lords, 1714. 4to. And "A Moral proof of a future State," published anonymously, 1725, 1737. 8vo. His piety and virtues were highly appreciated by his contemporaries; and of his learning and abilities his writings afford ample proof. There is an engraved folio portrait of the bishop by Vertue from a picture by Dahl.

WEDON PINKENEY

is sometimes called Wedon Loys from the patron saint of a celebrated well in the parish, but more frequently Wedon Pinkeney from its ancient lords, and in contradistinction to a place of the same generic name in the adjoining hundred of Fawsley. The parish includes the hamlets of WESTON and MILTHORP. but the lands are not separately distinguishable. It contains about 2180 acres, and the open field lands extending to about 1790 acres were inclosed by act of parliament in 11 Geo. 3 (1771). The principal proprietors are the warden and fellows of All Souls college, Oxford, the lords of the manor, who have about 738 acres; the vicar in right of his church about 405 acres; the hon. Henry Hely Hutchinson about 390 acres; the rev. William Pearson, D.D. of South Kilworth, Leicestershire, about 145 acres; Mr. John Aris about 135 acres; and Mr. Thomas Bleek, of Weston, about 105 acres. The lordship is bounded on the north by Plumpton, and north-east by Woodend in Blakesley; east by Greens park in Blakesley; south-east and south by Wappenham in Sutton hundred, and south-west by Helmdon in the same hundred; west by Sulgrave in Warden hundred; and north-west by Morton Pinkeney. The soil is various, but principally strong clay.

ST. LOY'S WELL. In the village is a well of considerable celebrity in former times for curing various disorders. It was considered to be under the special patronage of St. Loys, whose memorial was kept in the church, to which many resorted; and at the east end was formerly a house named St. Loy's house^a. Morton says, "for Ancient Fame, that called *St. Loy's* or *St. Lewis's* well at *St. Loy's Wedon* I take to be the chief of all the *Western* Part of the County. Even Blind and Leprous People, as Tradition tells us, it infallibly cured. It had been neglected a long time, insomuch that it was almost covered over with Filth. But by the Care and Direction of the Reverend Mr. G. Tew it was not long since cleaned and opened, and the ancient Cistern and Pavement discovered; so that all may now have free access again unto this Healing Water^b." It has long since been deserted for more fashionable resorts, and is almost locally unknown.

MANORIAL HISTORY. PINKENEY FEE OR BARONY. In the Saxon era "Wedone" was held in mediety by *Freget and Sward*. It was then valued at 40s. yearly, but was raised to 60s. at the domesday survey, when it was in possession of *Ghilo* or *Gila*, brother of *Ansculf*. It contained three hides. The arable land was seven carucates and a half; of which three were in demesne with nine servants and six maidens; and the remaining four and a half were in the occupation of a knight, thirteen villeins and six bordars. There was a mill worth 2s. yearly, and six acres of meadow^c.

^a Harl. MSS. 2129.

^b Morton, p. 283.

^c Domesd. 6s. 277.

Freyis, one of the Saxon lords, besides his estate here, which the Norman conqueror transferred to Ghilo, had lands in Preston Capes (Little Preston)^a, East Farndon, Oxendon, Desborough, and Hanging Houghton, which were absorbed in the immense fee of Moreton^b.

Siward, the other Saxon lord, was one of the feudatories of earl Harold^c, as this ill fated king was designated by his more fortunate lord. Of Siward's Northamptonshire estates, Holdenby^d and Easton Neston passed to the Moreton fee^e; "Wiche" (Wicken) to Maino Brito^f; and his portion of this vill, with Wappenham^g, and Silveston in this county^h; "Elenstone" in Berkshireⁱ, and Datchet and "Bovenie" in Buckinghamshire,^l

Ghilo, brother of Ansculf. In addition to Wedon, Morton, Silveston, Wappenham, Steane, Culworth, Thorp Mandeville, Stotesbery, Astwell, Siresham, and Sulgrave^m, *Ghilo* had four manors in Berkshireⁿ, three in Buckinghamshire^o, and one in Oxfordshire^p.

Though no surname is attached to Ghilo, his relationship to Ansculf will furnish one, and the one which was adopted by his posterity. "Ansculf de Pinchengi," or Pinkeni, exchanged a moiety of "Risenb'ga" (Risborough) in Buckinghamshire for "Esenberge" (Ellsborough) in the same county with earl Harold^q, afterwards the ill fated monarch who lost his crown and his life in the struggle with his Norman rival. This transaction establishes Ansculf's connection with, or residence in England prior to the conquest; and, if not counteracted by other circumstances, would naturally lead to the inference of his being a native Saxon, but his Norman origin will scarcely admit of a doubt. He was probably one of those who were invited over by Edward the confessor, and with his son William might possibly be in this kingdom ready to assist the Norman duke on his landing, and his brother Ghilo it is presumed came in with the invading army. As Ansculf himself is not in the list of domesday lords, it may fairly be concluded that he died previous to its compilation. "Esenberge" was then in possession of his son William, who was rewarded by the conqueror with most bountiful grants in different counties, and fixed the seat of his barony at Dudley in Worcestershire. Four of his manors are surveyed under this county, but one only—Barnack—is within its boundary; Wolcethorp is in Rutlandshire, and Bromwich and Wavre in Warwickshire^r.

Wedon, Wappenham, and Steane were kept in demesne by Ghilo, and though he had manors of double the value—Datchet and Midgham—yet, for reasons which it would be now vain to conjecture, WEDON had the honor of being selected for the *caput* of the Pinkeney barony; and what renders the choice more inexplicable is the proximity of Datchet to Windsor—the tenure of the barony being by payment to the ward of that castle which still continues the pride and ornament of the town over which it rears its majestic front. The invaluable assistance rendered to the genealogical antiquary by grants to the religious houses cannot be more strikingly illustrated than in the benefactions of the descendants of Ghilo to the neighbouring monastic establishments at Wedon, Canons Ashby, and Bittlesden, which authenticate every link in their succession; and one charter alone from sir Robert de Pinkeney^s, verifies no less than five generations.

Ralph de Pinkeney—grandson of the domesday Ghilo, in 5 Steph. rendered an account of 40 marks (£26. 13s. 4d.) for the lands of his father, and 20 marks (£13. 6s. 8d.) that he might marry the widow of Simon de Chenduit^t. His son *Gilbert de Pinkeney* was in possession when the aid was levied on the marriage of the princess Maud with Henry duke of Saxony in 14 Hen. 2 (1167). He notified to his lord the king that he had eleven knight's fees and a half of the old foefment in the time of king Henry (the first), viz. William, son of Richard, holds two knight's fees and a half; Henry, son of Robert de Pinkeni five knight's fees and a half; Gilo de Pinkeni one knight's fee and a half; Robert de Wany (Wancy) one knight's fee; Richer Neirenuit one knight's fee. And afterwards he gave to Henry his son, one knight's fee of his demesne; and to Gilbert his son, half a knight's fee. And there remains in his demesne the service of two knights^u; making in the whole fifteen fees. Notwithstanding the head of his barony was in this county, the above entry occurs under Buckinghamshire. Towards the close of the same county is another entry which seems still more misplaced: Baldwin (Betun) earl of Albemarle is returned to hold "Luiton, Wanet, and Norton" by three knight's fees of the gift of king Richard^v; not one of which is in Buckinghamshire, Luton being in Bedfordshire, Wantage in Berkshire, and (Greens) Norton in this county. *Henry de Pinkeney*, son of Gilbert, was certified in the hydarium of Henry 2, to hold two hides and eight small virgates in "Wedona^w." In the scutage of two marks for a fee after the first coronation of king John, he rendered an account of £10. 4s. for his fees in this county, and 100s. for exemption from going abroad, and for having scutage of his demesne^x. He died in 11 Joh. (1209) when *Robert de Pinkeney* his son paid £100 for his relief^y; and the following year in the inquisition of the services of tenants in capite answered for fifteen knight's fees^z. Joining the confederated barons, his lands were forfeited and given to Waleran Tyes, but restored on the accession of Henry III.^{aa} shortly after which, according to Dugdale, who confounded him with a contemporary of the same name, "he died as it seems, for before the end of that year the sheriff of Bedfordshire received command^{ab} to make livery unto Henry his son of all his lands; upon condition that he should be made a knight, and do the king service." This supposititious identity is negatived by making three Henries between this Robert in question and Robert in 16 Edw. 1, and that only two intervened is incontestably proved by the confirmation charter of this last Robert to Bittlesden abbey already referred to §. Robert de Pinkeney appears to have survived till 17 Hen. 3 (1232) in which year *Henry de Pinkeney* paid £100 for his relief for the lands of his late father^{ac}. The Testa de Nevill exhibits various particulars of his barony or fee between 19 and 25 Hen. 3. In the former year, on levying the scutage on the marriage of the king's sister to the emperor of the Romans, he paid 16 marks (£10. 13s. 4d.) for eight fees in this county, viz. two in Morton, one in Stean and Wappenham, two in Astwell and Siresham, and three in Sulgrave and Culworth^{ad}; and which fees are thus distributed, Henry de Pinkeney himself held half a fee in demesne in Wappenham; Robert de Pinkeney half a fee in Steane; Robert de Wancy one

^a Domesd. fo. 223 & 224.

^b Ibid. fo. 132b.

^c Ibid. fo. 228.

^d Ibid. fo. 227.

^e Ibid. fo. 61b.

^f Ibid. fo. 152b.

^g Ibid. fo. 159b.

^h Ibid. fo. 144b.

ⁱ Ibid. fo. 223b.

^j Carteghan MSS. G.

^k Rot. Pip. North. 31 Hen. 1.

^l Lib. Nig. 1, p. 196.

^m Carteghan MSS. H, p. 183.

ⁿ Ibid. p. 197.

^o Carteghan MSS. H, p. 183.

^p Class. 1

^q Cotton. MSS. Vesp. E. xxi. fo. 95b.

^r Pip. North. 1 Joh.

^s Pip. North. 11 Hen. 3.

^t Carteghan MSS. H, p. 183.

^u Pip. North. 11 Hen. 3.

^v Test. Nev. fo. 135.

^w Test. Nev. fo. 135.

^x Test. Nev. fo. 135.

^y Test. Nev. fo. 135.

^z Test. Nev. fo. 135.

^{aa} Test. Nev. fo. 135.

^{ab} Test. Nev. fo. 135.

^{ac} Test. Nev. fo. 135.

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^{ca} Test. Nev. fo. 135.

fee in Astwell and Faucot; Simon de Pinkeney two fees in Morton, one fee in Sulgrave, and one fee in Siresham, Astwell, and Faucot; Philippa, widow of William de Culworth, one fee in Culworth, one fee in Sulgrave, and William de Culworth one fee in Culworth*. In another part of the same record, under the head of divers counties, Henry de Pinkeney certifies to the king that he holds of him fifteen fees, all of the old feoffment and none of the new, of liam de Culworth two fees in Northamptonshire and half a fee in Berkshire; Robert de Wancy one fee in Northamptonshire; Robert de Pinkeney one fee in the same county; Richer Neynuyt one fee in Buckinghamshire; and the heirs of Robert de Pinkeney, of Midgham, one fee in Berkshire; and he himself two fees and a half in Northamptonshire, and one fee in Buckinghamshire in demesne, and also two fees in Essex of the fee of Boleyn; and that for the said fifteen fees he had paid 16 marks (£10. 13s. 4d.) to Gilbert de Preston and Geoffrey de Armenters in Northamptonshire, and by his own hands 5 marks (£3. 6s. 8d.) to the exchequer, and 4 marks (£2. 13s. 4d.) to William de Culworth, then sheriff of Essex†. The latter payments were evidently for his demesne fees. In 28 Hen. 3 (1243) he was fined 50 marks (£33. 6s. 8d.) for waste in the king's woods‡. He died in 38 Hen. 3 (1253) seized (*int. al.*) of the manor of Wedon, held of the king in capite by barony, leaving *Henry de Pinkeney* his son and heir aged twenty-six years, who, the same year "performing his fealty and paying one hundred pounds for his relief had livery of his lands; and in 42 Hen. 3 received command to fit himself with Horse and Armes and to attend the King at Chester, upon the Monday preceding the feast of St. John Baptist, for restraining the Welch in their Hostilities§." In 48 Hen. 3 (1263) he obtained a grant of free warren in Wedon and Wappenham¶. Having married Alice, sister and heir of Gerard de Lindsey, one of the two coheirs of the barony of Limesi, he paid £50 for his relief of a moiety of the barony in 33 Hen. 3 (1248)¶, and the following year the king took his homage for his share of the barony*. This match time gives a colour to the supposition, but the inquisition after his death expressly states his wife to be the daughter of Henry de Hastings, and gives none of the Lindsey estates to him. By an inquisition in 6 Edw. 1 (1277) it was found that Henry de Pinkeney, lately deceased, paid £15 yearly for his fees towards the castle guard of Windsor, of which sum he received £7. 10s. from his tenants or feudatories†; and 10 Edw. 1 (1281) his son *Robert de Pinkeney*, "being in the king's service in Wales, had scutage of all his Tenants by Military service in the Counties of Northt. Bucks, Bedf. Essex, Hertf. Warw. Oxon, Berks., Suff. Norf. and Somerset," including his feudatories of the Limesi as well as of the Pinkeney barony. In 15 Edw. 1 (1296) he was impleaded by Thomas de Cave for taking his sheep depasturing in a certain spot called "Wedon Merehull," which ought to be common, but Robert pleaded that it was several§. Amongst the charters in the Canons Ashby cartulary is the following entry relative to the barony of Pinkeney at this period. Robert de Pinkeney acknowledged to the barons of the exchequer, that he owed to the king £15. 3s. 4d. yearly for ward to the castle of Windsor, of which £12. 10s. ought to be paid at the rate of 20s. each fee, by Robert de Waunci for one fee in Astwell; by Robert de Pinkeney, of Morton, for four fees and a half in Morton, Sulgrave, Astwell, and Siresham in this county, and Elinton in Berkshire; by the abbat of Reading for one fee in Offington in Berkshire, by sir Bartholomew de Arley, Ralph Chenduit, and Peter Bluet for one fee and a half in Midgham and "Deneburewe" in Berkshire; by John de London for one fee and a half in Elington in Berkshire; by John Mohaut for one fee in Sulgrave; by John de Pinkeney for half a fee in Steane, and in "Uthenton" (Itchington) in Warwickshire; by sir Richard de Culworth for one fee in Culworth; and by sir Robert Fitz-Walter for lands in Tingrith in Bedfordshire; and all the residue was paid by Robert himself¶. He died in 34 Edw. 1 (1295) seized of the manor of Wedon held of the king in capite by the service of one fee and a half, and was succeeded by his brother and heir Henry de Pinkeney aged thirty years¶, who the same year did homage to the king for all the lands and tenements which his late brother held in capite¶. He was summoned to perform military service in person against the Scots and in Flanders by various writs from 25 to 30 Edw. 1; and was summoned to parliament in 25, 27, and 28 Edw. 1. Though not specially summoned thereto, he was present at the parliament at Lincoln in Feb. 29, Edw. 1. (1300-1), and subscribed the celebrated letter to pope Boniface VIII. in contravention of his pretensions to the kingdom of Scotland, by the stile and title of "*Dominus de Wedone*" with his pendant seal of four fusils in fess¶, which still remains attached to the original document¶. In September following he granted and surrendered to the king his heirs and successors for ever—the manor—or rather the *barony*—of Wedon—for by the manor could not be intended the substantial interest of the land or manor strictly so called, as will be subsequently shewn—but the superiority of the dependent fees, together with the advowson of the priory, the service of the freeholders at Wedon and Wappenham, and the homage and service of

Robert de Wancy for one fee in Astwell.

William Pinkeney, for four fees in Morton, Sulgrave, Astwell, Siresham, and Elington (in Berkshire).

Geoffrey de Bradden for one fee and a quarter, and the moiety of a quarter in Culworth, Sulgrave, Weston, and Elington, and

Peter [Adam] de Montalt for one fee and a quarter, and the moiety of a quarter in the same places.

Richard de Mundevill for one fee in Thorp Mundeville.

Robert de Pinkeney for one fee in Barton Pinkeney [Barton Comitis].

Robert Fitz-Walter de Daventre for two fees and a half in Tingrith in Bedfordshire.

Peter Assherigge for one fee in Bradwell in Oxfordshire.

John Neynt [Neynuyt] for one fee in Offington in Berkshire.

Robert de Locumb for four fees in Locumb in Somersetshire.

John de Pinkeney [the late] for one fee in Itchington in Warwickshire.

* Test. Nev. fo. 152 & 156.

† Ibid. fo. 271.

‡ Pip. Northt. 28 Hen. 3.

§ Ec. 38 Hen. 3, n. 27.

¶ Cart. 48 Hen. 3, m. 4.

‡ Pip. Northt. 33 Hen. 3.

§ Orig. 34 Hen. 3, r. 2.

¶ Ec. 6 Edw. 1, n. 64.

¶ Placit. Mich. 15 Edw. 1, r. 18.

¶ Canons Ashby cartulary, fo. 96.

¶ Ec. 24 Edw. 1, n. 61.

¶ Chapter House, Westminster.

¶ Dugd. Bar. 1, p. 536.

¶ Dugd. Bar. 1, p. 536.

¶ Orig. 24 Edw. 1, r. 17.

William Corly for one fee in le Grave in Warwickshire.

Nicholas Segrave for one fee and three quarters in Elindon in Essex.

Guy Shenfield for one fee in Shenfield in Essex.

Walter bishop of Coventry and Lichfield for half a fee in Christehall in Essex.

Walter Bibbesworth for one fee in Bibbesworth in Hertfordshire.

Abbot of Cirencester and Hugh Odingsells for one fee each in Bradwell in Oxfordshire^a.

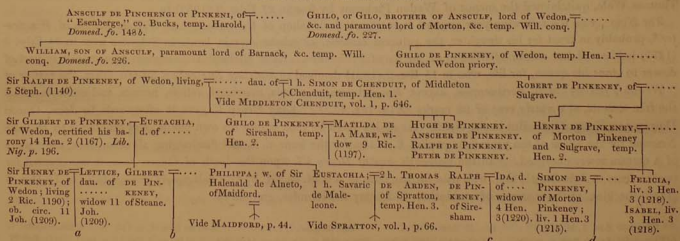
These fees, it will be perceived, include not only what were held of the barony of Pinkeneý, but of his share of the barony of Limesi, and of the fee of Bolougne in Essex. In Jan. 32 Edw. 1 (1303-4) the king issued a writ to the sheriff of Northamptonshire reciting the grant from Henry de Pinkeneý, and requiring all those who had held of the said Henry by homage or knight's service in that county, to repair to him at Easter wherever he might be in England to render their due fealty. In pursuance thereof Robert de Wancy, and Robert, son and heir of William de Pinkeneý, came and attorned to the king, and in full court did fealty. Robert de Wancy acknowledged that he held the manor of Astwell by the service of one knight's fee, rendering 40s. for scutage when it was assessed at 40s. a fee, and if more, more, and if less, less; and also rendering at the manor of Wedon for castleward of Windsor 20s. yearly at three terms, viz. from eighteen weeks to eighteen weeks. And Robert, son and heir of William de Pinkeneý, acknowledged that he held the manors of Morton, Sulgrave, Astwell, Siresham, and Elington in the said county by the service of four knight's fees, rendering 40s. scutage when it runs at £8 (for four fees), and also rendering at the manor of Wedon for castleward of Windsor £4. 10s. yearly at three terms. Richard Wyttacre acknowledged that he held Thorp Mundeville by the service of one knight's fee, rendering 2s. or a sparrow hawk "ad gulam Augusti." Roger de Missenden acknowledged that he held one messuage, one carucate and a half of land, four acres of meadow, and 44s. 6d. rent in Culworth by the service of one knight's fee, rendering 10s. and castle ward. The remainder of the feudatories did not come^b.

John de London, constable of Windsor castle, prayed the king the same year to direct a precept under the great seal, empowering him to levy the castle ward of £15 yearly, which the kings of England had received from time beyond memory from Henry de Pinkeneý and his ancestors by the hands of the governor of that castle for the barony of Pinkeneý, which is held of the crown in capite by the service of fifteen knight's fees. The names of the feudatories and their tenures which follow, exactly correspond with the list in the Testa de Nevill, which furnishes an additional proof that in the inquisitions of the paramount lords the *old* and not the contemporary tenants are frequently recorded. The constable enforces his petition by stating that the said Henry de Pinkeneý and Robert his brother whose heir he is, and Henry their father, and all his ancestors from time immemorial, paid by their own hands to him and Geoffrey de Pychford and other constables of Windsor castle 33s. 4d. to the wardship of the castle every forty days for their barony, but that when, through the malice or neglect of the lords of the barony, the payment was in arrear, he and his predecessors distrained, but chiefly in Wedon and Wappenham as the chief manors of the barony, and thus obtained payment. After the said Henry sold certain lands and tenements in Wappenham, together with the advowson of the church, to John de Tingewick, the purchaser opposed him and his assistants by force of arms when they distrained for the castle ward, not permitting them to levy the portion due for the said half fee in Wappenham, but procured different writs in chancery, and caused divers inquisitions to be made in the exchequer to prove that the said half fee is not held of the crown in capite, but of the heirs of Geoffrey de Lucy to the disinherment of the king and crown of England, because whosoever acquired or possessed any thing pertaining to the said barony of Pinkeneý, and died seised of it in his demesne, the crown had the wardship of such lands and the marriage of such heirs as were within age; and since the said Henry sold all the fees, there is no lord holding the barony entire who ought to do and *does* ward to the castle for the barony as was accustomed. And he and his servants having distrained those who hold the other fees for their portions of the castle ward, and they at the instigation of the said John de Tingewick opposing him and refusing to pay, he is unable to levy the said castle ward unless by writ under the king's hand^c.

PINKENEY, BARON PINKENEY OF WEDON; PINKENEY OF MORTON PINKENEY, STEANE, &c.

From public records, cartularies, and other authorities.

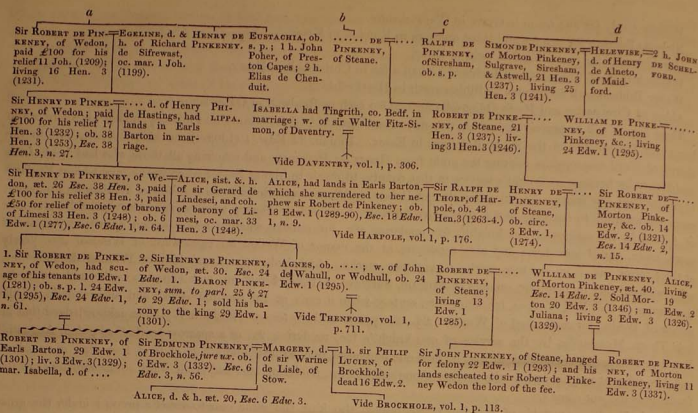
Arms. Or, four fusils in fess Gules.



^a Cartularius MSS. D. "Claus. 29 Edw. 1, m. 2."

^b Hatton. MSS. A. O. "Placit. Northt. Pasch. 32 Edw. 1, r. 9," & Abbrev. Placit. p. 250.

^c Ess. 32 Edw. 1, n. 191



Whether Henry de Pinkeney was driven to this dismemberment of his patrimony by necessity, or urged to it by caprice, is now as inexplicable as his future history, and nothing further is known of him than that in 30 Edw. 1 (1302) a writ of service was directed to him commanding his appearance in the expedition against the Scots¹. Prior to his surrender of the barony to the king, he had alienated detached portions of the demesne lands of Wedon to John de Boltesham², Robert de Lathbury³, John de Ufford⁴, and Simon de Stedman⁵, and the manor itself to *Sir Thomas Wale* and Lucia his wife⁶. In 9 Edw. 2 (1315) Lucia, wife

Sir Thomas Wale and *Lucia*, his wife. In 9 Edw. 2 (1315) *Lucia Wale* was certified to be lady of Wedon; 3 in 3 Edw. 3 (1329) her right was contested by Edmund Pinkney, who brought an assise of mort d'ancestor against her, but not appearing to defend his claim, judgment was given in her favor. Robert de Pinkney, who on failure of legitimate issue, was succeeded by his brother and heir Henry de Pinkney the last baron, had an illegitimate son, Robert de Pinkney, to whom he gave his manor in Barton Pinkney or Earls Barton, and this Edmund was not Pinkney, held of the king in capite by service of one fee, leaving *Thomas Wale* her son and heir aged forty years, who had the honor of being one of the original knights of the garter on the first institution of that noble order by king Edward III, and bore for his arms Or, a lion rampant Gules. He died in 26 Edw. 3 (1352) and *Peter Mallor*, son of his sister Margaret, *Alice*, wife of Thomas Chamberlain, another of his sisters, and *Juliana Wale* his other sister were his heirs, aged thirty years and upwards.⁵

WALE OF WEDON PINKENEY.

Arms. Or, a lion rampant Gules.

Sir THOMAS WALE, of Wedon; dead 9 Edw. 2 (1315).—LUCIA; ob. 17 Edw. 3 (1343), *Esc.* 17 Edw. 3, n. 40.

Sir THOMAS WALE, of Wedon, K.G.; =NICHOLA.
ob. s. p. Oct. 26, Edw. 3 (1352), *Esc.*
26 *Edw.* 3, n. 21.

MARGARET;..... MALLORE.
 dead 26
 Edw. 3.

Sir PETER MALLORE, nephew & coh. *Esc.* 26 *Educ.* 3.

Peter de Mallore, sir Thomas Chamberlayn, and Alice his wife, and Juliana sister of Alice, the coheirs of sir Thomas Wale, quitclaimed the manor of Wedon Pinkeney by fine in 27 Edw. 3 (1252) to *The King*, who then gave it to *The King's* son.

The Kings, who the following year granted it to *Simon* archbishop of Canterbury and *William* bishop of *Winchester*,⁴ probably in trust for his daughter, the princess *Isabella*, of whom certain lands in *Sulgrave* were in 34 Edw. 3 (1259) held as of her manor of *Wedon* of the fee of *Pinkeney*.⁵ King *Richard II.* assigned this manor in part of dower to *Anne* his queen, for life, who in 15 Ric. 2 (1391) demised to *Matthew Stuetenham* for ten years, the manor of "Wedon Pinkeney" with pertinencies, except fees, advowsons, wards, marriages, reliefs, heriots, and escheats of all the free tenants, at a yearly rent of 28 marks (£18. 13s. 4d.).⁶ King *Henry V.* gave it afterwards to *Joan*, Queen Dowager to *Henry IV.* But in the eighth year of his reign he took it into his own hands, and granted it to *William Newman* for the space of ten years; he paying £. 6. 10s. for the farm of it, and discharging all other dues, the repairs of a certain tower excepted. In the sixteenth year of *Henry VI.* upon the death of Queen *Joan*, it was granted for twelve years to *John Burgh*, Esq. who paid for the farm of it £14. 6s. 6d. by two half-yearly payments." In 18 Hen. 6 (1440) the king, at the instance of archbishop Chicheley the founder, granted to

^a Claus. 30 Edw. 1, m. 2. d. ^b Esc. 29 Edw. 1, n. 46. ^c Esc. 30 Edw. 1, n. 82. ^d Esc. 30 Edw. 1, n. 110. ^e Esc. 35 Edw. 1, n. 61. ^f Esc. 9 Edw. 2, n. 29. ^g Cardigan MSS., 'Nom. Vill. p. 8.' ^h Isham MSS. No. 37, p. 'Placit. 3 Edw. 3, n. 94.' ⁱ Esc. 17, n. 40. ^j Esc. 20 Edw. 3, n. 21. ^k Hutton MSS., 'Fin. Trin. 37 Edw. 1.' ^l Dr. p. 256. ^m Rot. fin. anno 8 Hen. 5, p. 16. ⁿ Ibid. 'Rot. fin. anno 16 Hen. 6, m. 12.' ^o Hutton Portfolio of Deeds. ^p Dr. p. 256. ^q Rot. fin. anno 38 Edw. III, p. 1, m. 22. ^r Ibid. 'Rot. fin. anno 38 Edw. III, p. 1, m. 22.'

Richard Andrew the warden, and the college of All Souls in Oxford, the manor of "Wedon & Weston alias Wedon Pinkenei," with pertinencies, rendering yearly one rose at the feast of the nativity of St. John the baptist if demanded¹; and the grant was specially exempted in the acts of resumption of the king's grants passed in the 28th, 29th, and 34th years of this reign^k. The general confirmation charter to the college in 1 Edw. 4 (1461) includes this manor^l, and it still continues parcel of the possessions of that noble foundation.

THE PRIORY,

dedicated to the virgin Mary, was a cell to the benedictine abbey of St. Lucien near Beauvois in Normandy. The original grant of Ghilo de Pinkenei the founder is not on record, but its nature and extent are gathered from the two charters of Gilbert de "Pincheni¹" or Pinkenei, by one of which he confirmed to the church of St. Mary of "Wedonia," and the brothers serving God there, all the donations of Ghilo his grandfather and Ralph his father, viz. one hide of land free and quit of his demesne in "Wedonia," a mill with the meadows adjacent, and all the tithes of the said vill, and the tithes of his demesne in "Wapnam" of corn and cattle, and cheese and all other things, except of two acres of corn, two lambs, and two cheeses, which ought to be paid to the priest, and the tithes of all his demesne lands in whatsoever vills they may be, and timber out of his wood for building, and wood for all necessary purposes, and free pasture for their cattle; and to those grants of his grandfather further adds the land of two full carucates except that which the "hospites" of the said church then held and cultivated; and to render his gift firm and unshaken, he with the consent of Eustachia his wife, Henry his eldest son, and his other children, placed it upon the altar of the church in the presence of Odo the prior, Adam, Richard, and Ralph monks, Hugh de Pinkenei, and many others^m. By the second charter, which, though placed last in the cartulary, ought perhaps to take precedence of the first, Gilbert de Pinkenei, or "Pinconiensis," inspired by divine grace, confirms all the donations which his grandfather "Gilo Pinconiensis" gave in all his vills to God the creator of all and St. Lucian of Beauvois; and the culture which Ralph his father gave them; and in addition forty acres of his demesne. These alms he very devoutly made on the morrow of the feast of All Saints with the consent of his wife Eustachia, and Henry and Gilbert with his other children, and placed the gift on the altar of the church, Adam the prior, Edgar the priest, and many others being witnessesⁿ. Henry de Pinkenei, inspired by divine grace, benignly grants all the donations which his great grandfather Gilo, his grandfather Ralph, and his father Gilbert, gave and by their charters confirmed to God the creator of all and St. Lucian of Beauvois, in all their vills, viz. the tithes "Wedonie" and the tithes of his demesne of "Wapnam, Stains (Steane) Mortona, Miggeham, Huggelaia, & Dachet," and gives in addition the tithes of the assarts of his demesne, viz. of "Ruhteberthe & Hertlea apud Dachet," and of all the assarts of his demesne of the aforesaid vills wheresoever he shall assart, whether he himself, or any other person shall cultivate the same. Philip the prior, and Robert and Ralph monks being witnesses^o. Robert de Pinkenei, son of Henry, with the assent of Henry his son and heir, granted to God and the blessed Mary of Wedon, and the monks of St. Lucian of Beauvois serving the lord in the said church of Wedon, that land at Gamel in the north field of Wedon with the meadow adjacent, and that land in the south field which is near the way leading to the monks' mill, for the souls of himself, Egelina his wife, and Henry his son, and others his successors, and especially for the soul of Philippa his daughter, deceased; and also quit claimed to the monks two half acres of land^p.

These benefactions constituted the entire endowment of this fraternity; not a single acre or rent charge reached it from any other quarter. Some of the alien priories were only a species of monastic grange; their internal government was subservient to, and regulated by, the foreign abbey to which they were subjected.

The Pinkeneys retained the patronage of Wedon, which had its own prior, and the advowson of the priory passed with the barony to the crown in the reign of Edward I. The first prior, whose name has been retrieved, is

Odo, who with three of the monks attested the charter of Gilbert, the grandson of Gilo de Pinkenei³, as did Adam another charter by the same Gilbert⁴.

Philip with two of the monks witnessed the confirmation charter by Henry the son of Gilbert de Pinkenei⁵.

Nicholas was one of the witnesses to the charter of Robert de Pinkenei, son of Henry⁶, and presented to the vicarage of Wedon about the year 1232. After him appears to have been chosen

Matthew Charite, who, resigning his office in 1264, was succeeded by

Matthew Pressour. He resigned within a year, and inquiry being made by the dean of Brackley, he was

found to have misbehaved, and to have brought the priory in debt. His successor was also named

Matthee. Upon his death in 1282 the convent of St. Lucian presented

Walter Gleyne. He presided four years; and on his resignation

Thomas de Compendio was preferred in his stead. He held the office but one year, and in 1287

Thomas de S. Marcello was appointed to succeed him. His resignation in 1291 made room for

Hugh de Patay. He continued here three years, and then resigned.

Hugh de Tilloy was his successor. During his govern-

¹ Hutton MSS. A. B. "Orig. 20 Jun. 18 Hen. 6," & Pat. 18 Hen. 6, p. 2 m. 11.

² P. 5, m. 37.

³ Harl. MSS. 4714, fo. 246.

⁴ Ibid. fo. 249.

⁵ Ibid. fo. 248 b.

⁶ Ibid. fo. 249 b.

⁷ Ret. Parl. vol. 5, pp. 187, 223, & 304.

⁸ Ibid. fo. 249 b.

⁹ Ibid. fo. 249 b.

¹⁰ Pat. 1 Edw. 4.

¹¹ Ibid. fo. 246.

ment the income of the priory was sequestered; and the sequestration taken off by the bishop in 1298 on the promise of his future residence. He was succeeded by

Peter de Dygon, admitted in 1302. But by letters from the convent dated in 1315, he was required to resign, and

Thomas de Villa Nova was appointed his successor.

But Peter appears to have maintained his post for some years afterwards; and fresh letters were dispatched from the convent in 1322 requiring him to resign under pain of incurring the censure of disobedience. In 1330

Robert de Calceya was nominated to the office; he governed about eleven years, and was succeeded by

William de Meiac, who entered on his office in 1341. The next we meet with is

Robert de Nova Villa, sent over by the convent of St. Lucian in 1360. His successor was

John Maligneure, appointed in 1365. After governing three years he appears to have resigned, and

Ralph de Ponte succeeded in his stead^a.

Thomas Ludlowe was prior when the house was alienated by its foreign head to an English abbey in 17 Ric. 2 (1392)^b, and it is not known to have subsequently enjoyed the right of having its own governor.

From the peculiar nature of the transfer, the legal documents by which the conveyance was effected are deserving of more than ordinary consideration. By deed dated 3 May 1392 (17 Ric. 2) Ralph Gare, monk of St. Lucian of the order of St. Benedict in the diocese of "Belvacens" (Beauvois) in the kingdom of France, and James Normandy, of St. Felice in the said diocese, having been duly appointed in full chapter procurators by and for the abbot and convent of St. Lucian, grant and deliver at perpetual farm to the abbot and convent of Bittlesden, and their successors, the priory of "Wedone Pinkenei" in the diocese of Lincoln and kingdom of England, with all lands, tenements, rents, services, and liberties whatsoever, and all tithes as well great as small, real and personal, oblations, convents, fruits, profits, and all commodities whatsoever belonging to the said priory, as well spiritual as temporal, together with the advowson and patronage of the vicarage of the church of Wedone, and the right of presentation thereunto when vacant, and all and singular things as well formerly as since in the hands of the said abbot and convent of St. Lucian in right of the said priory, in the villis of "Wapnam, Staines (Steane), Mortona, Plumpton, & Astwell in co. Northamp. Miggeham, Huggelaia, Dacet, Ruthberge, & Estleia apud Dacet in co. Bukyngh." to hold to the said abbot and convent of Bittlesden on either of the two following conditions at their option; that whenever the kings of England and France are at peace, they shall pay to the abbot and convent of St. Lucian or their procurators 12 marks (£8) in the name of a cess or pension yearly for ever, at the feast of St. John the baptist, in the church of St. Mary at Calais, and shall also pay at the nativity of St. John the baptist ensuing 100 marks sterling (£66. 13s. 4d.) in the church of St. Donatian at Brugges in Flanders, and the further sum of 50 marks (£33. 6s. 8d.) on the feast of St. Peter ad vincula 1393; or that they shall hold the said priory free of any yearly pension, provided they shall pay 300 marks (£100) to the said abbot and convent of St. Lucian, viz. 100 marks at the nativity of St. John the baptist ensuing, and 200 marks on the feast of St. Peter ad vincula 1393 in the said church of St. Donatian at Brugges. Thomas Ludlowe, the prior of Wedon, was amongst the witnesses to the deed, and it was sealed with the seal of Thomas de Southam, archdeacon of Exeter. England and France were then at war, and the reserved rent was made contingent on peace, because during hostilities the kings of England confiscated the revenues of the alien priories, and restored them again on the return of peace. The purchasers adopted the first alternative, and on the 20th of May, Robert abbot of St. Lucian and the convent of the same place of the order of St. Benedict in the diocese of Beauvois in France, with the consent of the brothers or monks, and of all those whose assent was required, and for a certain sum of gold paid to them by the abbot and convent of Bittlesden of the Cistercian order, for the relief of the monastery of St. Lucian lately burnt and destroyed by enemies, granted and demised at perpetual farm to the said abbot and convent of Bittlesden and their successors, with the licence of the king of England claimed and obtained, the priory or rectory or church of "Wedon Pinkenei," and the advowson or patronage of the said church which they hold to their proper use, together with the advowson and patronage of the vicarage of the said church with its pertinencies, to hold the said priory, rectory, church, advowson, and patronage, together with all lands, tenements, rents, and services, customs, pensions, possessions, liberties, quittances, immunities, tithes, rights, and privileges to the said priory belonging throughout England with pertinencies for ever, and when peace is made between England and France, then the said abbot and convent of Bittlesden shall render yearly to the abbot and convent of St. Lucian 10 marks (£6. 13s. 4d.) in the church of St. Mary at Calais on the feast of the nativity of St. John the baptist for all exactions and demands. There is a clause of distress in default of payment of the reserved rent or pension, licence to appropriate the church of Wedon, and a general warranty^c. The same day, the abbot and convent of St. Lucian appointed their fellow monk Ralph Gare, James Normanny, and two others, their attorneys to deliver seisin to the abbot and convent of Bittlesden, of the priory of Wedon Pinkenei^a. By another deed, dated the 27th of this month and enrolled among the memoranda of the exchequer in easter term 17 Ric. 2, abbot Robert and the convent of St. Lucian, reciting that their rectory or priory of Wedon Pinkenei was very remote and distant from their monastery, but very near the abbey of Bittlesden, in consideration of a certain sum of gold paid to them by the abbot and convent of Bittlesden for the relief of the monastery of St. Lucian which had been burnt and destroyed by enemies, grant and to farm let to the said abbot and convent of Bittlesden, the priory or rectory of Wedon Pinkenei with all its appurtenances, as specified in the agreement made by Ralph Gare and James Normanny, and all which things were granted to the said priory or rectory by Gilo Pinkenei, Ralph Pinkeni, Gilbert Pinkeni, and Henry Pinkeni, to hold to the said abbot and convent and their successors for ever subject to the yearly pension of 10 marks in the time of peace, and the said abbot and convent of St. Lucian released, quitclaimed, and resigned all right of nominating or presenting to the said priory, rectory, or church^b. On the 14th of June, Robert abbot of St. Lucian, and the prior, subprior, and many other officers of the said monastery by name, being assembled in their chapter house, faithfully declared that they would renew, strengthen, and confirm from that time forward the deeds and muniments which they had made and granted to the abbot and convent of Bittlesden of the priory of Wedon Pinkenei

^a Br. 1. p. 256 & 257.

^b Harl. MSS. 4714, fo. 230.

^c Ibid.

^d Ibid. fo. 254.

^e Ibid. fo. 255.

^f Ibid. fo. 256 b.

with its possessions whatsoever and wheresoever²; and on the 26th of July following, Ralph Garet and James Nor-manny with their co-attorneys delivered seisin of the priory or rectory, in the presence of William West, vicar of Wedon, and many others, to the abbot and convent of Bittlesden³, 'who in the same year obtained a full discharge from all taxes and payments in any future time of war, with a particular exemption from the annual payment of viill. which in times of war had been usually received by the crown⁴'. Bridges proceeds, 'But altho' thus united to the convent of Bittlesden, it could not escape the fate in which the priories alien were involved. In the second year of Henry V. it was suppressed by the parliament at Leicester; and about the year 1440 was made part of the endowment of All Souls college in Oxford⁵'. This statement is decidedly erroneous, for that this priory merged in, and continued with Bittlesden abbey down to the dissolution is placed beyond doubt by the following grant in Oct. 32 Hen. 8, (1540) by which the King after reciting a lease in 30 Hen. 8 from Richard Green, then abbot of the late monastery of "Bytlesden," to Edmund Clark, gent. of the seite of the said monastery with all lands and tithes as particularly described, and certain lands and woods in Wappenham, Whitfield, and Siresham, for 99 years,—a lease in 27 Hen. 8 from the abbot and convent to Edmund Haslewood, gent. of all their lands, meadows, and pastures in "Wedon Pinkeney alias Loies Wedon" as particularly described with all manner of tithes belonging thereto, and the title of wool and lambs of all sheep depastured by the said Edmund in the fields of Weston in the parish of Wedon for 40 years—a lease in 29th Hen. 8 from the abbot and convent to Edmund Bull, of Weston, and John Fellowe of certain portions of tithes as described belonging to the parsonage of Wedon in Wedon and Weston, and a messuage and half a virgate or yardland in Wedon with mansion and buildings to the said parsonage belonging for 40 years—and a lease from the abbot and convent to Thomas Lovet, esq. of certain portions of tithes belonging to Wappenham and Astwell, parcel of the tithes of the said rectory of Wedon, grants to

Sir Thomas Wriothesley the reversion in fee of all these several parcels of the late dissolved abbey of Bittlesden, together with the patronage of the churches of "Bytlesden and Wedon Pinkeney," rendering £4 yearly and freed from all former rents and services, except (*int. al.*) £6 yearly for a stipend to the curate of Bittlesden &c. On the 1st of Nov. following sir Thomas Wriothesley in consideration of £700 conveyed all the premises comprised in the above grant to

Edmund Peckham, esq. in fee⁶, who in 34 Hen. 8 (1542) had licence by the name of sir Edmund Peckham, of Denham in Buckinghamshire, to settle the manor and rectory of "Wedon Pinkeney alias Loys Wedon," on himself for life, remainder to Robert Peckham, esq. in fee tail⁷.

It was, I apprehend, the lay portion of this estate, of which George Lovett, gent. a younger son of Lovett of Astwell⁸, died seised in 9 Eliz. (1567) when it was described in the inquisition as the manor of Wedon Pinkeney, and Pincpole Lovett was returned to be son and heir aged sixteen years⁹.

CANONS ASHBY LANDS. In the reign of Henry III. Robert de Ho by deed without date gave to the prior and convent of Canons Ashby all the land which he had of the fee of William de Culworth or "Coleworth" in Weston and Wedon, consisting of the fourth part of a knight's fee, to be held by the render of that service to sir Richard de Culworth when seutage happened by the common council of the baronage of England¹. Sir Richard de Culworth, son of sir William de Culworth, confirmed the grant from sir Robert de la Ho of the fourth part of a fee in Weston and Wedon, and also two virgates which the monks held in demesne²; and by another deed acknowledged to have received 40s. by the hands of Oliver his groom ("valette") from the prior and convent for the redemption of the foreign service of this fourth part of a fee³. Henry de Pinkeney, the chief lord of the fee, confirmed the grant of Robert de Hoo and the confirmation of Richard de "Culworth," by the description of ten virgates of land in Weston and Wedon⁴. To the fac simile of this deed is attached a small circular seal with the arms of Pinkeney, impaling, Barry wavy, and inscribed, "S. Henrici de Pinkeni o." Hugh, son of sir William de Culworth, gave the monks 10s. yearly rent out of a virgate in Weston, and William, son of William de Culworth, a virgate in Weston⁵. By an agreement in 53 Hen. 3 (1269) sir Henry de Pinkeney for 2 marks granted to the prior and convent of Ashby common of pasture and warren in all their demesne lands in Weston and Wedon from the south side of the church way to their lands in the east, saving to him and his heirs a road through the churchway when the north field was sown, and a road for them by Middlethorp between Weston and Wedon when the south field was sown⁶. Robert de Pinkeni, son and heir of sir Henry de Pinkeni, lord of Wedon, confirmed to the monks all the donations of his ancestors or their tenants in Weston and Wedon, two virgates and two cultures of land in Weston of the gift of sir Henry his grandfather, and (*int. al.*) one virgate of the gift of sir R. del Ho, to all which lands they had ingress in the time of sir Henry his grandfather and sir Henry his father, to hold quit from view of frank pledge and all service whatsoever to him or his heirs⁷. It will be observed that there is a great deficiency in the lands said to be given by del Ho compared with the original grant; and Henry de Pinkeney, brother and heir of Robert, in his confirmation of all the donations of his ancestors in Wedon, Weston, and Wappenham, more conscientious than his brother, especially includes all that pasture called "la Hulle" with two holms in Wedon and Weston of the feoffment of sir R. del Ho, and which pasture his said brother Robert had usurped to the great damage of the monks; and granted them fifteen acres, and a road thirty feet wide by which their cattle might pass and re-pass to the pasture⁸. To this deed was appended a small circular seal, bearing an armed knight on horseback with the arms of Pinkeney on his shield and the horse housings, and inscribed, "S. Henrici Pinkeney t." In the ecclesiastical survey of 1535 (26 Hen. 8) the temporalities of Ashby priory in Weston and Wedon were rated at only 17s. 4d. *per ann.*⁹; and after the dissolution were granted (*int. al.*) in 34 Hen. 8 (1542-3) to sir John Williams and Anthony Stringer¹⁰.

² Harl. MSS. 4714, fo. 259.

⁴ *Ibid.* fo. 256.

⁶ Br. 1, p. 256. ⁷ Rot. Fin. 17 Ric. 2, m. 3.

⁸ *Ibid.* p. 256 & 257.

⁹ Pat. 1 Oct.

32 Hen. 8, p. 25, & Harl. MSS. 4714, fo. 353.

⁵ *Ibid.* fo. 358 & 361.

¹ Pat. 4 July 34 Hen. 8, p. 4.

³ Esc. 10 Eliz. n. 56.

¹⁰ Canons

Ashby Cartulary, fo. 99.

² *Ibid.* fo. 105.

⁴ *Ibid.* fo. 99.

⁶ Hatton Portfolio, No. 327.

⁸ Canons Ashby Cartulary, fo. 100 & 103.

⁷ *Ibid.* fo. 96.

⁹ *Ibid.* fo. 106.

¹¹ *Ibid.* of. 112.

¹² Hatton Portfolio, No. 162.

¹³ Augm. Off.

¹⁴ Pat. 24 Feb. 34 Hen. 8, p. 11.

¹⁵ Vide vol. 1, p. 732.

CASTLE. A prominent mound on the village green still marks the site of the baronial castle of the Pinkeneys.

THE VILLAGE is situated nearly equidistant about nine miles from Towcester and Brackley. In the time of Bridges, Wedon with Weston and Miltthorp contained 'eighty-two families, whereof upward of twenty were freeholders'.^a By the census of 1801 it contained 84 houses and 387 inhabitants; by that of 1811, 90 houses and 386 inhabitants; by that of 1821, 101 houses and 477 inhabitants; and by that of 1831, 110 houses and 528 inhabitants. The annual property tax of 10 *per cent.* for the year ending April 1815 amounted to £2956. The poor's rates for the year ending Easter 1832 raised £570. 6s. 5d. at 6s. 6d. in the £. The wake follows the assumption of the virgin Mary.

THE ADVOWSON has been traced under the priory down to the entail of the impropriate rectory and advowson of the vicarage on Robert Peckham, esq. In 13 Eliz. (1571) George Peckham, esq. had licence to alienate them to Roger Daye, of West Drayton in Middlesex, gent. who died seised in 44 Eliz. (1601) leaving George Day, son of his brother Thomas, his nephew and heir aged twenty-two years. The rev. Richard Day, son of William Day, bishop of Winchester, during his incumbency of this parish, exchanged the impropriate rectory and advowson of the vicarage with King's college, Cambridge, for "the lease of Stamford Courteny in Devonshire", and on condition that the vicar by presentation should hold the impropriate rectory by leave from the college at a reserved rent of £20 *per ann.*

THE RECTORY was rated in the taxations of 1254 (38 Hen. 3)^a and of 1291 (20 Edw. 1)^b at 15 marks (£10) *per ann.*; but is omitted in the ecclesiastical survey of 1535 (26 Hen. 8). The allotment awarded by the commissioners of inclosure to the impropriate rectory is held by the vicar as lessee of King's college, Cambridge.

THE VICARAGE is in the deanry of Brackley. It was ordained by Hugh Wells, bishop of Lincoln, between 1209 and 1234, and was endowed with 'the tithes of twelve virgates and a half of land; with a convenient manse or vicarage house, and the fourth part of the altarage, excepting the small tithes of the Lord's house, and the offerings to the reliques at the church of Wedon and the candle on the purification of the virgin Mary'.^c It is omitted in the taxations of 1254 and 1291; but in the ecclesiastical survey of 1535 (26 Hen. 8) the vicarage of "Leweswedon" is rated at £6. 17s. 4d. *per ann.* without any deductions. The parliamentary commissioners in 1655 certified "Wedon and Weston" to be both parsonage and vicarage, the parsonage worth £100 yearly and the vicarage £10 yearly, in the patronage of King's college, Cambridge, and the profits of both were in the hands of John Willis.^d The vicarage now consists of 192 a. 2r. 33p. allotted by the commissioners of inclosure in lieu of glebe lands, tithes of open fields, and certain old inclosures and Easter offerings; 198 a. 3r. 5p. allotted to the vicar as lessee of the impropriate rectory, in lieu of the great tithes of the open fields and certain old inclosures; with a rate tithes of £35. 3s. yearly in lieu of the great and small tithes of old homesteads worth 10s. yearly and of certain old inclosures belonging to All Souls college, Oxford. The vicarage house adjoins the church yard to the east. Bridges says, 'Mr. Philips the last incumbent new built the vicarage house, which hath been fitted up and ornamented by Mr. Willis the present vicar'.^e It has been recently much improved.

VICARS. John de Toucestre, by Nicholas, prior of Wedon, procurator general of the abbot and convent of St. Lucian of Beauvois, 1232.

John Ypre. He was rector of Dodford from 1266 to 1272.

Richard de Budon, chaplain, by the prior of Wedon Pinkeney, 20 May 1268.

William de Lycheheld, 24 Nov. 1275.

Peter de Morton, 14 July 1283.

Thomas de Wapenham, chaplain, 16 Nov. 1310.

John Barfot de Kyngesthorp, priest, by the king, the temporalities of the priory of Wedon being in his hands, 5 Aug. 1349.

Philip de Plumpton, by the king.

Ivo de Fretheby, priest, 22 March 1351.

Robert Marchaill, or Boucher, exchanged for the vicarage of Stanton Barry in Buckinghamshire with

John Aunslof, chaplain, by the abbot and convent of Bittlesden, 18 April 1402^h. He was vicar of St. Edmund's in Northamptonshire 1390; and exchanged the rectory of Warpsgrove in Oxfordshire for the vicarage of Stanton Barry in 1397ⁱ.

Simon Couett.

John Warner, priest, 23 Aug. 1420, previously noticed under coChamb.

John Nicholl, priest, 17 Oct. 1430, whose other preferences in the county will be found under Great Billing.

Will. Warde, chaplain, 19 Nov. 1435.

John Wallys, priest, 31 Jan. 1435.

William Milde, priest, 19 April 1437.

John Bitterley.

Thomas Hasyllbury, chaplain, 20 April 1450. He was vicar of Easton Maudit from 1489 to 1491.

Richard Clover, priest, 8 March 1452.

Sir John Lylley, priest, 31 July 1463, already noticed under Harleston.

Sir Nicholas Launde, priest, 12 June 1472.

Mast. Henry Wright, priest, 9 Oct. 1477, has already occurred under Aynho.

Sir Henry Mosse, priest, 11 May 1498.

Sir Stephen Hewerton, 20 June 1512.

Sir Thomas Foxe, priest, 10 Dec. 1524, and occurs in the ecclesiastical survey of 1535.

Anthony Morrison, presented by Roger Daye, of Drayton, Middlesex, gent. and instituted 9 Oct. 1586. He was buried here 26 June 1618ⁱ, and

William Losse, A.M. was inst. 23 Sept. following, on the presentation of the provost and scholars of King's college, Cambridge, to which college he was elected from Eton in 1603. He was a zealous royalist, and on Sunday

^a Br. 1, p. 224.
Nero D. x. fo. 187 b.

^b Pat. 18 May 13 Eliz., p. 11.

^c Tax. Eccl. p. 38.

^d Esc. 44 Eliz. p. 2, n. 163.

^e Reg. Hug. Wells, Ep. Line. ano^o, 4to, fo. 11. Rot. Inst. 21 & Rot. Cart. 21 & 23.

^f Cotton. MSS.

^g Br. 1, p. 227.

^h Augm. Off.

ⁱ Lambeth MSS. vol. 20.

^j Br. 1, p. 258.

^k Br. Willis's MSS.

^l Par. Reg.

2 July 1643, twelve of the parliamentary troopers were dispatched from Northampton to apprehend him. They arrived during the time of divine service, and advancing to the reading desk where he was officiating, they required him to surrender to them. He remonstrated, and begged to be allowed to finish his devotions, but they refused to wait, and he followed them into the church yard, when they told him he must accompany them to Northampton. To his inquiry on what authority, they answered he would know when he arrived there; and on alleging that the parliamentary soldiers had plundered him of twelve or thirteen horses, and that he had not one left, one of the troopers told him he might ride behind him, or he would drag him along with a halter at his horse's tail. Roused by their brutal insolence, he boldly replied that he would never be a slave to slaves, and rushing from them took refuge in the church, but not thinking himself sufficiently secure, he ascended into the belfry, and from thence to the leads by means of a ladder, which with difficulty he pulled up after him, and laying it over the hole barricaded the passage. His pursuers with pole axes and tomb-stones from the church yard forced an entrance and rode into the church. Having ascertained the place of his retreat, they "made up to the hole which goes into the leads," but he resolutely and successfully defended his post; they discharged their pistols at him eight or nine times, but fortunately missed their aim; they however wounded him in several places with their swords, and one of his wounds having opened a vein, his blood flowed so fast upon his assailants underneath, that they concluded they had dispatched him and left him to his fate¹.

The parliamentary commissioners in 1655 reported that

THE REGISTERS commence in 1559.

THE CHURCH dedicated to the virgin Mary consists of a broad tower between the south aisle and chapel, containing four bells, a nave, south aisle and chapel, and chancel. The nave is 37 ft. 7 in. long by 13 ft. 8 in. wide; the tower 20 ft. 6 in. by 18 ft. the south aisle 41 ft. by 21 ft. 6 in. the chapel 28 ft. 9 in. by 14 ft. 11 in. and the chancel 23 ft. 6 in. by 15 ft. 6 in. The interior is indifferently paved and pewed. The font has a circular Norman basin ornamented at top with foliations and a row of beaded festoons. The nave is divided from the south aisle by three pointed arches on octangular pillars with plain mouldings. At the east end is a piscina under an ogee crocketed arch with pinnacles from corbel heads. The south chapel is separated from the aisle by a carved screen under an arch. In the south wall is the founder's arch. At the east end is a piscina. On the north side are two arches, one opening into the tower; the other into the chancel. The entrance arch from the tower to the chancel is built up. The chancel is surrounded by a plain wainscot.

MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS.

SOUTH CHAPEL.

I. Against the east wall of the nave is a neat rectangular tablet of white marble with a black border, inscribed,

Sacred
to the Memory of the
Rev^d THOMAS LLOYD, M.A.
Twenty-two years Vicar of this Parish,
He died in London, July 21st 1828,
Aged 66 years.

He was an accomplished Scholar and richly
Adorned with the Graces of the Christian Religion.
His Faithfulness as a Minister of Christ, and the
Conformity of his Life to his Saviour's Example
Commanded the Veneration of his Parishioners,
by whom this Tablet was erected.

II. On a tablet of white marble against the south wall, arms, S. a chevron between three griffins' heads erased

the cure is served by strangers, and what they have for salary is not known. The vicarage and two parts of the parsonage stand sequestered from

Mr. John Woolton, and now

Mr. Edward Massey is approved on for the place².

Vere Phillips, A.M. was presented by rev. Charles Roderick, D.D. John Smith, William Stevens, and Robert Drake, jun. and inst. 13 July 1696 on the death of the last incumbent. His resignation introduced

Benjamin Willis, B.D. who was inst. 17 Feb. 1704-5, on the presentation of the provost and scholars of King's college, Cambridge. He was buried here 22 Feb. 1747-81, and

George Bowles, A.M. was inst. 10 June following. He was buried here 9 Oct. 1769³, and was succeeded by

James Bones, who afterwards adopted the name of *Godwin*. On his decease

Thomas Lloyd, A.M. was inst. 20 Jan. 1807. He died in London 21 July 1828, and was buried at Camberwell in Surrey. His parishioners testified their sense of the exemplary manner in which he discharged his parochial duties by erecting a tablet to his memory; and his brother the rev. Richard Lloyd, A.M. rector of St. Dunstan's in the West, London, published a Memoir of him, to which is annexed an Essay on the literary beauties of the Scriptures, which gained the Norrisian prize in 1784; and five sermons preached before the university of Cambridge. 8vo. 1830. His successor

James Thomas Price, A.M. was inst. 8 Jan. 1829. He died in consequence of a fall from his horse 26 Jan. 1832, and the present incumbent

Samuel Smith, A.M. was inst. 6 Aug. following.

Ar. on a chief O. a lion passant G. between two Torteauxes, *Jennens*. Crest on a wreath, a wolf's head erased G. holding in its mouth a cross patee fitchy Ar.

Near this place lieth interred
The body of *RICHARD JENNENS, Esq.*
late of *Weston* in this *Parish*,
Son and Heir of *RICHARD JENNENS, Esq.*
of *Princethorp*, *WARWICKSHIRE*,
and *SUSANNA*, Youngest Daughter of
St JOHN BLENCOWE, Knt.
of *Marston* in this *COUNTY*.
He was born at *Chipping Warden*,
February ye xi 1710,
and died at *Bath March ye 34 1773*.
To his Memory
this Monument is erected
by his Sisters and Administratrices
MARY BARNARDISTON and ANNE PEARETH.

¹ Walker's Sufferings of Clergy.

² Lambeth MSS. vol. 20.

³ Par. Reg.

III. On a smaller tablet collateral to the last,

In Memory of
 SUSANNA JENNENS,
 Relict of Rd JENNENS, Esq^r
 and Daughter
 of St JOHN BLENCOWE, Kt.
 She died much lamented
 By all that knew Her
 May ye 16th 1760,
 Aged 92 years.

IV. On a neat tablet of white and grey marble, against the west wall,

SACRED
 to the Memory
 of
 SUSANNAH WIGHT,
 Widow of
 HENRY WIGHT, Esq.
 of Blakesley Hall, in this County,
 and Daughter of
 WILLIAM PEARETH, Esq.
 of Usworth House, Durham.
 Social, Hospitable, Benevolent;—
 after the Enjoyment of
 a long life,
 she died January 14th
 in the year of our Lord 1823,
 of her age 83.

V. On a tablet against the north wall,

Memento Mori.
 In Memory of
 the Revd GEORGE STEERS,
 (Late Vicar of Isleham
 in the County of Cambridge)
 Who departed this Life
 December 31st 1799,
 Aged 81 years.

1. On a slab, nearly obliterated and supplied from Bridges,

M. S.
 Dilectissimæ Conjugis ELIZABETHÆ HICCOCKS,
 Quæ claro genere & honesto orta
 Patre Johanne Bagshaw Armigero
 Matre Francisca Filia Sapcoti Harrington Militis,
 Clarioribus animi dotibus enituit;
 Pietate in Deum non fucatâ,
 Erga omnes liberalitate, in pauperes munificentia;
 His accessit
 Mira morum suavitatis, & ingenii elegantia,
 Quæ vivam Delitias suis,
 Mortuum triste fecerunt desiderium.
 Dico cum Hydropse diu
 At equanimiter confictata,
 Quod mortale fuit exiit
 7^o Octobris A. D. 1716.
 Beatam sperans immortalitatem.
 Amoris ergo hoc saxum posuit
 Mestissimus Maritus,
 Hic etiam brevi dormiturus.

2. On a black marble slab collateral to the last, also supplied from Bridges,

Hic situm est
 Quod mori posuit
 Ast olim resurget nunquam moriturum,
 Revdi Viri Gulielmi Hiccocks,
 Ecclesie de Plumpton Rectoris,
 Pastoris fidi, Mariti comis,
 Amici spectatissimi.
 Multis ille bonis flebilis occidit,
 Nulli flebilior quam mihi!
 Uxorem juxta charissimam obdormit,
 Cui, (de seipso heu! nimium vates!
 Ut in appposito videre est lapide)
 Tres tantum annos cum dimidio
 superfuît
 Ob^t 14 Apr. An. Dom. 1720.

3. Mrs. Elizabeth Blomer, d. of rev. Thomas B. S. T. P. of Bromley in Kent, 2 Mar. 1634, æt. 63.

BENEFACTIONS (vide p. 2). **POORS' LAND.** The commissioners of inclosure allotted 14a. 0r. 26p. in trust for the poor in lieu of the right of cutting furze and thorns. The rent is expended in coals which are given away at Christmas.

LEESON'S CHARITY. The sum of 20s. *per ann.* received under this charity, is distributed among poor widows, and old and infirm persons.

WESTON

is a considerable hamlet about half a mile west from Wedon.

WESTON HALL was in the last century the property and residence of Richard Jennens, esq. from whose eldest sister and coheirress Mrs. Barnardiston it has passed, as stated in the pedigree under **THORP MANDEVILL***, in right of his wife, to colonel the hon. Henry Hely Hutchinson, brother of John Henry 3d earl of Donoughmore. In the house are portraits of Susanna Blencowe, wife of Richard Jennens, esq.; Mary Jennens, wife of Arthur Barnardiston, esq.; Richard Heber, esq. grandfather of hon. Mrs. Hutchinson; Elizabeth Barnardiston his wife; Anne Wallis, wife of sir John Blencowe, just. of com. pleas; and Sir Edmund Probyn, lord ch. bar. of the exchequer. The house has been enlarged, and the grounds much improved by the present proprietor.

CHAPEL. There is no account or tradition of a parochial chapel in Weston.

* Vide vol. I, p. 730.

BAPTIST CHAPEL. The particular or calvinistic baptists have had an interest here for more than a century, but their first stated pastor was *John Law*, who settled here about 1792, and during whose ministry the present chapel was erected. He died 20 Feb. 1805, and was succeeded by *William Pain*, on whose resignation *Richard Clark*, the present minister, was elected.

THE MEETING HOUSE is a stone building near the centre of the village, 28 ft. long by 22 ft. 6 in. wide. It is neatly pewed, and has a west gallery.

I. On an oval tablet:

Near
this Place are
Inter'd the Mortal
Remains of
The Revd JOHN LAW,
Upwards of 13 Years a Faithful
Pastor of this Church :
One much esteemed both in Public
and Private Life.
He departed this Life

the 20th Feb. 1805.
Aged 62 Years.
The Memory of the
Just is
Blessed.

II. Tablet for

M^{rs} Isabel Pain, wife of the Revd Wm. P. sometime Minister of the Gospel here, ob. 5 Jan. 1807, æt. 45.

III. Tablet for

Mr Thos Kingston, ob. 12 June 1810. æt. 74.



The coin, of which the annexed representation is contributed by col. Hutchinson, was ploughed up a few years since in this lordship, and is thus described by a celebrated numismatist to whom it was submitted soon after it was found. "The small brass coin found in Northamptonshire is Greek, and what is still more curious, Asiatic Greek. It is of the city of Sala in Phrygia. It appears from the published catalogue of the Hunterian Collection (pl. 46, fig. 17), that there is a coin in that collection precisely similar, except that the legend is there more perfect, and shews that the letters round the vase or basket on the reverse were CAANON, signifying that it was a coin of the Saleni, or people of Sala. Scarcely anything is known of Sala but its coins, of which there are upwards of twenty varieties in the cabinets of Europe, all of a high degree of rarity. The basket on the Northamptonshire coin of Sala contains two or three poppies and two ears of wheat hanging down."

MIDDLETHORP, now contracted to MILTHORP, is situated, as the name implies, between Wedon and Weston.

Cleley or Clepley Hundred,

is written in the Saxon certificate *Klegele*, and in the Norman survey varied to Claislea, Claieslea, Claileia, Clailae, Claislund, Claiveslea, Claile, Claiesle, and Claille, all obviously pointing to the Saxon *cle*g clay, and *ley*, a field;—the *clay-field* where the hundred court was held—and which was situated in the lordship of Potterspury bordering on Furtho, as is denoted by the spring called Cleley well. This hundred is bounded on the north by Wymersey hundred; east and south by the county of Buckingham, from which it is partially divided by the rivers Tove and Ouse; south-west by Norton hundred; and north-west by Towcester hundred. The Roman Watling street, now the Chester road, intersects this hundred in a direct line from Towcester to Stony Stratford in Buckinghamshire. The Grand Junction canal enters it from Blisworth and quits it near Cosgrave.

Cleley hundred comprises the parishes and hamlets of ALDERTON; ASHTON; COSGRAVE (including part of Old STRATFORD); EASTON NESTON (including HULCOTE and SEWARDSLEY); FURTHO; GRAFTON REGIS; HARTWELL; PASSENHAM (including DENSHANGER, PUXLEY, and HOLYWELL); PAVELISPUY or PAULERSPUY (including PLUMPTON and HEYMUNDGOTE or HEATHENCOTE); POTTERSPURY (including WAKEFIELD, MORE-END, and YARDLEY GORION); ROADE or RODE (including HIDE); STOKE BRUERN (including SHUTLANGER); and WYKE DYVE and WYKE HAMON now WICKEN.

The Saxon certificate of Northamptonshire hundreds between the death of Edward the confessor and the Norman conquest, states that in *Klegele* hundred were an hundred hides as in the days of king Edward; whereof eighteen hides were rated (or taxed); forty hides were in-land (or demesne); and the remaining forty-two hides, approaching to a moiety of the whole, were waste.

As the hundred court was held within the manor of Potterspury, it is not improbable but the custody or fee of the hundred was annexed to that manor; for in the reign of John, William earl Ferrars, the lineal representative of Henry de Ferrares or Ferrars, the domesday lord of that vill^b, granted the hundred of Cleley to Hugh de Wydeville at a fee-farm rent of 20s. yearly^c. In 3 Edw. 3 (1329) John son of John de Wydeville, was summoned by writ of quo warranto to substantiate his claim to this hundred, when he pleaded the grant from Ferrars to Hugh de Wydeville, father of William great great-grandfather [trivius] of the said John whose heir he is; and that the ancestors of Ferrars enjoyed it by prescription. The king's attorney, however, contended that, as the claimant acknowledged that his grantor held in capite of the king, so was he only the minister of the crown and had no power to commit his trust to another in fee without special licence from the king, which the said John did not shew, but claimed in disherison of the crown; he prayed therefore that the hundred should be taken into the king's hands, and a day was given, till when the claim remained *in statu quo*^d. Two years afterwards the king recovered the hundred of Cleley against John son of John de Wydevill by default^e; notwithstanding which it eventually reverted to the family, and ultimately passed with their manor of Grafton Regis to the crown, in which it is still vested.

The hundred court is merged in the honor of Grafton; and the annual statute for hiring of servants is held at the New inn at Roade.

ABSTRACT OF RETURNS OF CHARITABLE DONATIONS, &c. 1787-1788.

Ordered by the HOUSE OF COMMONS to be printed 26 June, 1816.

Names of the Persons who gave the Charity.	When given, and whether by Will or Deed.	Description of the Charity, For what Purposes given, and whether in Land or Money.	In whom now vested.	Gross Amount of that given in Money.	Annual Produce of the Money.	Clear Annual Produce of that given in Land.
ALDERTON. Mrs. Leeson	Unk.—Will	To the poor—Rent charge	The Minister	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Do	Do	Do	Widow Hill	-	-	1 0 0
ASHTON.						6 10 0
Unknown	Unk.—Unk.	For bread to the poor—Money	{ Churchwardens { and Overseers }	3 10 0	0 3 6	—
Do	Do—Do	{ For repairing the church; but the two years last distributed to the poor.—Land }	Churchwardens	-	-	0 12 0
COSGRAVE.						
John Whalley	1670—Will	{ For apprenticing one or two boys yearly, and when out of their time, £10 to set them up in trade; and two houses for the poor—Rent-charge & 2 houses }	{ Roger Whalley and Churchwardens }	-	-	10 0 0

^a Antiq. Soc. MSS. No. 60.

^b Domesd. fo. 225.

^c Quo Warr. 3 Edw. 3.

^d Histon MSS. H. "Placit. S' Hill. 5 Edw. 3, r. 17."

^e Payment refused for near twenty years past, as no writings can be found to maintain their claim.

^f Never paid.

Names of the Persons who gave the Charity.	When given, and whether by Will or Deed.	Description of the Charity, for what Purpose given, and whether in Land or Money.	In whom now vested.	Gross Amount of that given in Money.	Annual Produce of the Money.	Clear Annual Produce of that given in Land.
EASTON-NESTON.						
Jane Leeson	1646—Will	To the poor of Hulcot—Rent-charge	{ Lucy Knightley, Henry Wright, Wm. Henry Chauncy, Michael Woodhull, William Ives, Charles Fox, Samuel Blencowe, and Richard Kerby }	-	-	1 0 0
FURTHO.	-	None.	-	-	-	-
GRAFTON REGIS. Commissioners of Inclosure } of Parl.	- Act -	To the poor—Land	Duke of Grafton	-	-	1 0 0
HARTWELL. Charles Wake Fran. Arundell R. Brice, sen. & John Church	1663—Deed	Do—Do	Heir of the Survivor	-	-	3 18 0
PASSENHAM CUM DESHANGER.						
Anth. Carpenter	17 Chas. I. —Deed	To poor families—Land and houses	{ Francis Clarke, Robert Joseph, Edward Winhall, William Clarke, George Dickins, Thomas Dickins, James Clare, Anthony Chinnall, Thomas Benson, and John Hey. }	-	-	2 3 4
Daniel Allen	1688—Will	{ To the poor of Deshanger—Land and three houses - - - }	{ Rector & Church-wardens - }	-	-	10 1 68
John Swannell	1707—Will	For teaching poor children—Rent-charge	{ William Clarke and Hannah Clarke - }	-	-	2 10 0
Edw. Whitton	1766—Do	{ For bread to the poor not receiving parish relief—Money - - }	{ Rector & Church-wardens - }	100 0 10	3 8 8	-
Thomas Nichol	1726—Do	For bread to 24 poor—Rent-charge	{ Widow Penn and William Golby - }	-	-	1 2 0
PAULERSPURY.						
Jane Leeson	1646—Do	To the poor—House and Land	{ Lucy Knightley, Henry Wright, Wm. Henry Chauncy, Michael Woodhull, William Ives, Charles Fox, Samuel Blencowe, Richard Kerby. }	-	-	1 10 0
Elizabeth Spinal	1726—Do	To poor old widows or old maids—Land	{ The Rectors of Stoke Bruerne & Paulerspury }	100 0 0 ¹	-	4 0 0
Mrs. Clapham	About 1742—Do	- Money - - -	Churchwardens	20 0 0	0 16 0	-
Joshua Lepper	1762—Do	For bread to the poor—Rent-charge	{ William Lepper - }	-	-	0 5 0
Thomas Nicolls	1721—Do	Do—Land - - -	{ Maria Penn and William Master - }	-	-	1 0 0
Wm. Marriott	About 1721—Do	{ For teaching 6 poor children, and bread to poor widows—Land - - }	{ The Rector - }	-	-	9 3 0
POTTERS PURV.						
Tho. Addington	Unk.—Will	To the poor—Money	{ Robert Harding, John Smith, Joseph Scrivener, Richard Scrivener, and Thomas Horton - }	3 0 0 ¹	-	-
Thomas Barrow	Do—Do	Do—Do - - -	-	6 0 0	-	-
Henry Harris	Do—Do	Do—Do - - -	-	5 0 0	2 0 0	-
Thomas Pedder	Do—Do	Do—Do - - -	-	5 0 0	-	-
Tho. Woodward	Do—Do	Do—Do - - -	-	10 0 0	-	-
Rich. Scrivener	Do—Do	Do—Do - - -	-	5 0 0	-	-
Buskins	Do—Do	Do—Do - - -	-	50 0 0 ¹	1 10 0	-
Cuthbert Ogle	1633—Do	For bread to the poor—Do	George Shuttleworth	-	-	2 0 0
Gabriel Clarke	1624—Do	To 10 poor—Land	Duke of Grafton	-	-	1 10 0
William Penke	- Do	For gowns for 2 poor widows—Rent-charge	Do and John Gibbs	-	-	0 10 0 ²
Mary Harris	1751—Do	{ For Bibles and Prayer-books for poor children—Rent-charge - - }	-	-	-	-
ROAD.						
Katherine and Eliz. Chival	1708—Deed	To the poor—Land	{ The Minister, Churchwardens, and Overseers }	-	-	4 0 0
Unknown	Unk.—Unk.	Do Do	{ William Hillyard, John Pagget, Stephen Blunt, Thomas Marriott }	-	-	3 7 0
STOKE BRUERNS AND SHUTTLEHANGER.						
Thos. Bosenhoe	1510—Will	To the poor—House and land	{ The Minister, Parishioners, and Others }	-	-	3 13 6
Thos. Kingston	- Do	Do—Rent-charge	Do	-	-	3 4 0 ²
Frances Crane	1702—Do	For bread to the poor—Do	{ Rector of Stoke and heir of Stoke Park - }	-	-	4 6 8

* The three houses purchased by the parish out of the accumulated money from Daniel Allen's charity, called Jarvis's charity. ¹ O. S. S. Annuities.

¹ Now in Land.

² Also £5 per ann. for teaching six poor boys.

³ Three per cents.

⁴ The landed part of this estate belongs to the Duke of Grafton, the house, &c. to Thomas Marriott; but no power being given by the will, of entering on the estate in case of non-payment, the books were never given but once, and that above thirty years ago, soon after the death of the testatrix.

⁵ Of 1s. per week to the poor—£2. 12s.

Names of the Persons who gave the Charity.	When given, and whether by Will or Deed.	Description of the Charity, for what Purpose given, and whether in Land or Money.	In whom vested.	Gross Amount of that given in Money.	Annual Produce of that given in Money.	Clear Annual Produce of that given in Land.
STOKE BRUERN AND SHITTLEHANGER, continued.						
John Kingston	1702—Will	To 6 poor widows—Money	{ The Minister, Parishioners and Others }	60 0 0 ^a	-	2 17 6
WICKEN.						
Francis Palmer	1680—Will	For bread to 12 poor—Money	{ - - - }	{ 52 0 0 }	5 0 0	—
Mrs. Frances Thompson	Unk.—Do	Do—To the poor—Do	{ Rector & Churchwardens - }	{ 25 0 0 }		
Mrs. Fisher	Do—Do	Do—Do	{ - - - }	{ 10 0 0 }		
The Parish	Do—Do	Do—Do	{ - - - }	{ 13 0 0 }		
Anna Maria Sharp	1747—Will	Do—Do	John Methuen Rogers	100 0 0	5 5 0	—
Edward Whitten	1774—Do	Do not receiving parish relief—Do	{ Rector & Churchwardens }	100 0 0	3 8 2	—
YARDLEY GOBION.						
Tho. Addington	Unk.—Will	To the poor—Money	Do—Do	3 0 0	24 0 0	—
Thos. Barrow	Do—Do	Do—Do	Do—Do	6 0 0		
Henry Harris	Do—Do	Do—Do	Do—Do	6 0 0		
Thos. Pedder	Do—Do	Do—Do	Do—Do	5 0 0		
Tho. Woodward	Do—Do	Do—Do	Do—Do	5 0 0	1 10 0	2 0 0
Rich. Scrivener	Do—Do	Do—Do	Do—Do	10 0 0		
— Buskin	Do—Do	Do—Do	Do—Do	5 0 0		
Cuthbert Ogle	1633—Do	For bread to the poor—Do	Do—Do	50 0 0		
Gabriel Clarke	1624—Do	To 10 poor of Potterspury—Land	George Shuttleworth	-	1 10 0	—
William Peake	—Do	For gowns for 2 poor widows of Do—Money	Duke of Grafton	-	1 10 0	—
Mary Harris	1751—Do	{ For Bibles and Prayer-books for poor children—Money }	Do and John Gibbs	-	0 10 0	—

POPULATION TABLE

Of the Hundred of CLELEY, extracted from the Returns to Parliament, 11 Geo. IV. (1831.)

PARISHES.	AREA. * English Statute Acres.	HOUSES.				OCCUPATIONS.			PERSONS.		
		Inhabitants.	Families.	Houses build- ing.	Unin- habited.	Families employed in Agri- culture.	Families employed in Trade.	Families not com- prised in these Classes.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Alderton.....P.	910	36	40	—	1	27	2	11	73	89	162
Ashton.....P.	1290	78	86	—	—	44	22	20	185	195	380
Cogrove.....P.	1760	121	133	2	2	70	36	27	279	345	624
Easton-Neston with Hul- cote.....P.	720	32	36	—	2	33	—	3	64	80	144
Furtho.....P.	480	3	3	—	—	3	—	—	9	7	16
Grafton Regis.....P.	1510	47	52	—	1	36	13	3	130	111	241
Hartwell.....P.	1850	95	105	—	—	75	25	5	279	252	531
Old Stratford.....H	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Passenham.....P.	2230	156	178	1	2	103	50	25	408	420	828
Paulers Pury.....P.	2950	225	229	—	3	77	87	40	534	558	1092
Potters Pury.....P.	173	204	3	5	—	173	50	6	445	505	950
Yardley Gobion.....H.	2820 {	123	134	—	1	82	38	14	289	305	594
Roads.....P.	1600 {	113	119	—	4	72	27	20	257	296	553
Stoke Bruerne.....P.	3810 {	90	102	—	—	45	20	37	210	227	437
Shuttlehanger.....C.	74	80	3	2	59	10	11	152	173	325	
Wicken.....P.	4690 {	96	132	1	1	61	44	27	243	293	536
	26620	1462	1633	10	24	960	415	258	3557	3856	7413

* Recovered by a suit in Chancery from John Kingston, son of the above Thomas Kingston; and laid out by consent of the minister and vestry in purchasing a house, orchard, and land. † O. S. S. Annuities. ‡ Yardley Gobion being only a hamlet of Potterspury, the return was answered for that parish. § In 3 per cents.

§ This column, as forming a part of the official return, has been retained, though extremely erroneous, as will appear on a comparison with the statement of the number of acres given under the respective parishes from local inquiry and the inclosure awards.

CLELEY HUNDRED.

BAPTISMS.				BURIALS.			MARRIAGES.	
Years.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.		
1821	138	114	252	56	69	125	1821	68
1822	129	104	233	61	71	132	1822	45
1823	117	105	222	70	79	149	1823	65
1824	134	112	246	60	79	139	1824	41
1825	114	90	204	60	56	116	1825	50
1826	101	121	222	79	88	167	1826	57
1827	110	106	216	76	70	146	1827	52
1828	103	99	202	67	75	142	1828	53
1829	110	106	216	70	65	135	1829	57
1830	99	99	198	60	73	133	1830	49

ALDERTON,

in domesday "Aldriton," and in early records Aldrinton, contains about 880 acres. The open fields were inclosed by act of parliament in 59 Geo. 3 (1819). The principal proprietors are George Henry duke of Grafton, lord of the manor, who has about 480 acres; sir John Mordaunt, of Walton in Warwickshire, bart. about 230 acres; and the rector, in right of his church, about 130 acres. The lordship is bounded on the north by Stoke Bruerne; east by Grafton Regis; south by Potterspury; and west by Paulerspury. The soil is various; and the arable and pasture is in nearly equal proportion.

MANORIAL HISTORY. MORETON FEE^a. "Aldritone" was the joint Saxon freehold of *Edmar* and *Edwin*, and was then valued at 40s. yearly, but raised to 50s. at the domesday survey, when it was held by the earl of *Moreton*. The arable land was eight carucates. In demesne were two hides and half a virgate; and there were three carucates with one servant; and three villeins and three bordars with two carucates. There were twelve acres of meadow, and a wood three furlongs square^b. Besides the above, a thane held one hide in Aldriton of the earl. The arable land was two carucates, and there was one plough. It was valued at 10s. yearly^b. On the confiscation of the earldom of Moreton, the paramourney appears to have been transferred to the Warrens, earls of Surrey.

MANOR. In the hydariam of Hen. 2, Stok and Aldrinton were certified to contain seven hides and two small virgates, but neither the tenant nor the tenure are recorded^c. By deed without date, but which, from the attestation of Hubert de Burgh, chief justiciary, prior to his obtaining the earldom of Kent, must be placed between 1214 (16 Joh.) and 1226 (10 Hen. 3) William de Warren, earl of Surrey, granted to

William Briwere, or *Bruere*, all the lands of his fee in Stoke, Sitelanger, and Aldrinton in the county of Northampton, with whatever he or his ancestors had in the said lands in demesne, fees, homages, and reliefs, to hold to him and his heirs by the service of one knight's fee^d.

Sir James le Sauvage in 30 Hen. 3 (1245) for 100 marks (£66. 13s. 4d.) demised the manor of Aldrinton with the corn growing on the land, and the advowson of the church, to sir John Lovell for twelve years, to be re-delivered at the expiration of the term in as good state and condition as when leased^e. *Thomas le Sauvage* in consideration of £100 granted to

Sir Pagan de Cadurcis, or *Chaworth*, his castle and all his lands in the vill and fields of Audrinton, rendering one penny yearly^f. By another deed in 54 Hen. 3, he remised and quit-claimed 3 marks of yearly rent (which he ought to receive from the said Pagan during his life, for the manor of Aldrinton,) according to an agreement made between them, for £10 which Pagan paid to him at Havendon^g; and sir John Lovell, son of John Lovell, for 100 marks (£66. 13s. 4d.) quitclaimed to him all his right in the manor^h. This Pagan de Cadurcis or Chaworth was lord of the neighbouring manor of Stoke by descent from one of the coheirresses of Bruere. He died without issue in 7 Edw. 1 (1278) and was succeeded by his brother *Patrick de Chaworth*, who survived only four years, leaving an infant daughter

^a Domesd. fo. 223.^b Ibid. fo. 224.^c Cotton MSS. Vesp. E. xvi. fo. 96.^d Hatton Portfolio of Deeds, No. 85.^e Duchy

of Lancaster Register C. C. 11, fo. 3 b.

^f Ibid. fo. 4 b.^g Esc. 7 Edw. 1, n. 17.^h Vide Broom's book, vol. 1, p. 120.

and heiress *Maud*^b, who afterwards married *Henry* earl of Lancaster^c, and in 34 Edw. 1 (1306) jointly with her husband granted the manors and advowsons of Stoke Bruere and Aldrinton to *William de Combemartin*^d. The subsequent descent will be found under *Stoke*, with which it has been invariably associated down to *George Henry* 4th duke of Grafton, the present proprietor (1834).

PARLES' LANDS. Alice, widow of John Parles^e, died in 19 Edw. 3 (1345) seised of lands in Alderton held of Adam de Courtenhall (who married the widow of Combemartin) by fealty and suit of court twice a-year. This estate may be traced in the successive inquisitions of the Parles' family, and was sold by their representative John Cumberland^f in 19 Hen. 7 (1504) to sir Richard Empson^g, of EASTON NESTON. On his attainder it was included in the grant to William Compton, esq.^h ancestor of the marquis of Northampton, and afterwards accompanied the other Empson estates to the Fermorsⁱ, ancestors of the earls of Pomfret, but is now merged in the Grafton property.

ALDRERTON was annexed to the honor of Grafton on its erection in 33 Hen. 8, and the court was formerly held at the manor house here in the morning and adjourned to Grafton in the afternoon^j, but is now kept wholly at Grafton.

THE CASTLE conveyed by Sauvage to Chaworth, stood at the north end of the village near the church, and commands an extensive prospect. It is now called the mount, and occupies an area of about two acres. It is encompassed with a deep foss overgrown with underwood.

THE MANOR HOUSE stood in a low situation at the north-west extremity of the village. After the manor was acquired by king Henry VIII. the site of the manor with the capital messuage and demesne lands were demised on lease. In 9 Eliz. (1567) Edward Cornwall, esq. had a grant for twenty-one years^k, and appears to have assigned his interest to William Gorges, esq. whose widow Cecilia Gorges had a renewal of the lease in 32 Eliz. (1590) p. Accord-
ing to Bridges, William Gorges, esq. left his leasehold estate here, to *Frances*, his only daughter and heir, the wife of sir Thomas Haslerig, of Nouseley in Leicestershire; created a Baronet in the twentieth year of king James I. From this gentleman it descended to his son sir Arthur Haslerig, and from him to sir Thomas Haslerig his son, who dying without issue male, the title with his entailed estate passed into the family now seated at Nouseley; but this estate at Alderton being a chattel, and descending to his female heirs, fell to Mary his daughter, who was first married to Arthur Haslerig, son to John Haslerig, esq. the third son of sir Thomas Haslerig, the elder, and after his decease without issue was re-married to Samuel Rolfe, esq. and by virtue of this marriage conveyed her estate here to the present possessor (about 1720). On the determination of the lease, the reversionary grant to the duke of Grafton took effect, and it is now united to the manor. Bridges thus describes the manor house: '*William Gorges*, esq. built at Alderton a very large mansion house, which falling to decay was in part pulled down by Mr. Rolfe, the present possessor of it. By the part remaining, which is embattled, it appears to have been a noble structure.' During the royal progress in 1605, queen Anne of Denmark was entertained for four nights at Alderton (Aug. 16—20), the king being during the same time at Grafton^l; and that of 1608, king James was here on the 4th of August, and knighted sir Henry Anderson, of London, having just before bestowed the same honour, at Grafton, on his host, Thomas Haslerig, esq.^m. The only indications now remaining, are some mullioned windows in the farm offices.

THE VILLAGE is situated about eight miles from Northampton, at a short distance west of the Stratford road. In the time of Bridges there were 'about five-and-twenty houses'. By the census of 1801, it contained 32 houses and 183 inhabitants; by that of 1811, 31 houses and 151 inhabitants; by that of 1821, 35 houses and 177 inhabitants; and by that of 1831, 36 houses and 162 inhabitants. The annual quota of land tax for this parish is £45. 11s. 10d. at 4s. in the £. The estimated value of real property as assessed to the property tax of 10 per cent. for the year ending April 1815 amounted to £1096. The poor's rates for the year ending Easter 1832 raised £164. 15s. 7d. at 3s. 3d. in the £. The wake follows the feast of St. Margaret.

MARKET AND FAIR. In 6 Edw. 1 (1278) Pagan de Chaworth had a grant of a weekly market at "Aldrinton" every Thursday, and a yearly fair on the vigil, the day, and the morrow of St. Margaretⁿ, the patron saint; but they have never been observed within memory.

THE ADVOWSON of "Aldrington" was claimed in 10 Ric. (1198) by John Mauduyt against Gerard de Mangneix [Manquenci]. On what grounds the plaintiff could rest his pretensions I am ignorant, but the defendant was mesne lord of Stoke at that period, and probably of Alderton. William de Combemartin presented in 1311, and the patronage henceforward accompanied the manor, till the grant from king Charles II. in trust for the first duke of Grafton, when the advowson was reserved; and is still vested in the crown.

THE RECTORY is in the deanery of Preston. It is omitted in the taxation of 1254 (38 Hen. 3), but in that of 1291 (20 Edw. 1) was rated at 4 marks (£2. 13s. 4d.) per ann. and in the ecclesiastical survey of 1535 (26 Hen. 8) at £12. 3s. deducting 3s. for synodals and procurations to the archdeacon of Northampton^o. The parliamentary commissioners in 1655 certified it to be a parsonage representative worth £70 yearly; and that Thomas Horton was the late incumbent presented by the lords commissioners of the great seal, but now vacant, the said Mr. Horton being ejected

^b Esc. 11 Edw. 1, n. 35.

^c Knightley Evidences.

^d Esc. 19 Edw. 3, n. 31.

^e Hatton MSS. "Fin. Hll. 19 Hen. 7."

^f Pat. 24 Feb. 3

Hen. 8, p. 3.

^g Esc. 5 Edw. 6, p. 3, n. 30, 36.

^h Br. 1, p. 281.

ⁱ Pat. 12 July, 9 Eliz. p. 7.

^j Pat. 7 July, 32 Eliz. p. 3.

^k Br. 1, p. 281.

^l Ibid. p. 280.

^m Nichols's Progresses of James I. vol. 1, p. 357.

ⁿ Ibid. vol. 2, p. 303.

^o Cart. 6 Edw. 1, n. 12.

^p Placit. 10 Ric. 1, 15.

^q Tax. Eccl. p. 38.

^r Augm. Off.

^s Vide DODFORD, vol. 1, p. 350.

^t Vide WATFORD.

for scandal^a. The rectory now consists of 128a. 3r. 16p. of land, including 12a. 0r. 19p. in Grafton old park adjoining Grafton rectory, in exchange with the duke of Grafton for glebe close of 5a. in Grafton and for certain lands in Alderton, allotted by the commissioners of inclosure in lieu of the glebe and of all the tithes of both old and new inclosures. There is no parsonage house.

RECTORS. *John de Lavingdon.*

Stephen de Cumbemartyn, clerk, by William de Cumbemartyn, 7 Oct. 1311.

Gilbert de Gosberkyrk, clerk, by Adam de Cortenhale, 1347.

Richard de Selby. He was also rector of Middleton Chenduit.

John Griseleye, acolyte, by Isabella, widow of William de St. John, 14 Oct. 1349.

John Pecock, priest, by Adam de Cortenhale, 7 Jan. 1349.

Richard Colcombe, by Richard Wideville, 26 Jan. 1377.

William de Stretton, priest, by Isabella de St. John, 20 Mar. 1385.

John Baker, priest, by feoffees of sir John Chastylton and Margaret his wife, 3 Oct. 1396.

John Dary, by Thomas Wydeville, esq.

William Andrew, priest, by the king, by reason of the minority of Richard Harrowden, 20 Feb. 1447. He has been already noticed under Dodford.

Sir Thomas Pytham, priest, 22 Oct. 1458.

Simon Hall, by Edmund Grey lord de Ruthyn, by reason of the minority of John Longville.

Sir Robert Pierson, priest, John lord Dudley, 26 Nov. 1468.

Sir Robert Draper.

Sir John Wolfe, priest, by Richard Harrowden, esq. 26 Nov. 1473.

Sir John Gayne.

Sir John Makeu, priest, 28 April 1475.

Sir Thomas Craker.

Thomas Yaxley, priest, by sir Richard Knightley, 3 Dec. 1528.

John Younge, clerk, was presented by the queen, and inst. 13 March 1550, on the decease of the last incumbent.

Ralph Grenehall, inst. 28 Aug. 1556.

William Seredge, inst. 24 June 1562. On his deprivation,

Peter Canway, inst. 19 Oct. 1565.

Bryan Deane, 29 Nov. 1500.

Michael Lemme, inst. 9 Apr. 1600, on the resignation of the last incumbent.

THE REGISTER commences in 1597.

THE CHURCH, dedicated to St. Margaret, consists of a low embattled tower containing five bells, nave, south aisle and porch, and chancel. The south front is late Perpendicular with square-headed windows; the north front has two tier of windows, the lower, pointed with a quatrefoil in the head, and the clerestory square-headed corresponding with the south side. The tower is 12ft. 9in. long by 10ft. 4in. wide; the nave and aisle 53ft. 2in. long, the nave 18ft. 6in. and the aisle 8ft. 7in. wide; and the chancel 26ft. long by 16ft. 6in. wide. The interior is paved with brick. Most of the original horizontal seats are remaining; and there is a handsome carved pulpit, dated at the back 1631, and beneath is inscribed in capitals, "I the Lord will meet thee in this place, and tell thee what thou shalt say to the People. Ex. 25, 22." The south windows exhibit traces of painted glass. The font stands at the foot of a pillar opposite to the south entrance; it is of the Decorated style; octagonal, with a trefoil-headed arch in each face, under a foliated border or cornice. The nave is divided from the south aisle westward, by three pointed arches on octangular pillars with capitals of plain mouldings, and at the east end by a square opening and a rectangular aperture like a window. It communicates with the tower and chancel through an open arch. The chancel is devoid of all ornament; paved with brick, and having neither decalogue, nor altar rails.

William Oliver, rector, was buried here 28 Jan. 1631^b, and

Henry Wilde, A.M. was inst. 2 Feb. 1631, on the presentation of sir Francis Crane, p. h. v. He resigned for Ashton, and

Edward Foliot, A.B. was inst. 25 Aug. 1634. He was son of sir Foliot, of Worcestershire, and sequestered from this living by the parliamentary committee. Walker^c says, "One of his successors was in the strictest literal sense really and truly a *ballad-singer*."

Thomas Horton occurs in 1646, and was ejected for scandal prior to 1655^d.

Samuel Dudley, of Jesus coll. Camb. A.B. rector of Bradden, was inst. 15 May 1684, on the decease of the last incumbent. His resignation introduced

Henry Downes, of New coll. Oxf. A.M. rector of Brington, who was inst. 14 Sept. 1710. On his elevation to the Irish bishoprick of Killala, he was succeeded here by

Edmund Palmer, of Trin. coll. Oxf. A.M. who was inst. 21 Feb. 1716-7. On his decease

Thomas Hinton, of Trin. college, Camb. A.M. was inst. 8 Apr. 1729. He was buried here 20 May 1746^b, and

John Austin, of Univ. coll. Oxf. A.M. rector of Grafton Regis, was inst. 6 Apr. 1748. He was buried at Grafton 11 Nov. 1764, and his successor here

Joseph Backhouse, of Joh. coll. Camb. A.B. 1755, A.M. 1765, was inst. 14 Dec. following. He was buried here 27 Mar. 1774^b, and

Robert Harding, jun. rector of Grafton Regis and vicar of Potterspurty, was inst. ... June following. He was buried at Potterspurty 13 July 1790, and

John Bright, of Pembroke coll. Camb. A.M. was inst. to the rectory of Grafton Regis with Alderton annexed, 9 June 1792. He was collated to the prebend of Coombe and Harnham in Salisbury cathedral in 1826. He purchased the Skeffington estate at Skeffington in Leicestershire, where he principally resided and died 27 July 1833.

Frederick Thomas William Coke Fitzroy, of Magd. coll. Camb. A.M. was inst. 10 Sept. following.

^a Lambeth MSS. vol. 20.

^b Par. Reg.

^c Walker's Sufferings, p. 245.

^d Lambeth MSS. vol. 20.

MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS.

NAVE. I. Under a pew near the pulpit is a cross-legged knight in wood, probably commemorative of one of the Cadurcis or Chaworth family in the reign of Edward I. He has a close helmet with a plain fillet. The countenance is spirited and in good preservation, but the figure is much mutilated. The head rests on a lozenge cushion, and the feet on a lion.

On slabs:

1. Hannah Woodward, late w. of Edmund W. of London, gent. 17 Mar. 1674, æt. 42.

"And about her are interred the bodies of her father & mother Frances & Mary Butler, & of her brother Richard, her sisters Grace & Tomasin, & other relations."

CHANCEL. II. Bridges thus describes the monument of William Gorges, esq. 'On the north side is an altar monument of free stone, raised about three feet from the ground, whereon is the figure of a man in armour, and round the verge this inscription in capitals:

HIC JACET CORPUS GOLIEMI GORGES ARMIGERI QUI
OBIT 29^o DIE JUNII AN^o 32 ELIZABETE A^a DOM. 1589.
MAN SLEEPETH AND RISETH NOT, NEITHER SHALL HE WAKE
OR BE RAISED TILL THE SHALL BE NO MORE.
BUT THEN LORD THOU SHALT CALL ME AND I SHALL AN-
SWER.

'On the side of this monument are these arms quartered: 1. *Gorges, Argent, an orle of three pieces B.* 2. *Lozengé A. and B. a chevron Gules.* 3. *Gules, a lion rampant Argent.* 4. *Argent, a chevron Sable between three fers de moline Sable.* The crest is worn out. At the head are the arms of *Gorges*.'

The tomb is now destroyed, but the covering slab is placed on the floor at the north-east angle of the wall. The figure was merely etched not sculptured, and is now only partially traceable.

III. Over the communion-table, within a small square freestone frame is a brass plate, having on the dexter side (Ar.) a chevron between three hael leaves (Vt.) Hesilrigge,

'In the year 1492, *Margaret Garnon*, widow, by her will bearing date 13 July 5, orders her body to be buried by her husband in the chapel of our Lady in the church of *Alderton*; to the high altar of which she bequeaths two candlesticks of latten, and the image of our Lady standing in a tabernacle of alabaster to be set up in our Lady chapel; and she further directs her executors to find a priest, a good sad man, to sing for her and her two husbands, and her good friends' souls, three years.'

BENEFACTIONS. (Vide p. 116). CHURCH AND TOWN LANDS. The commissioners of inclosure allotted 2a. 2r. Sp. of land to William Slater as heir at law of the surviving feoffee of certain lands held immemorially as church and town lands. It is now let at *per ann.* and the rent is received by the churchwardens, and applied with the church rates, agreeably to long established usage.

There are also five cottages in Alderton, which belong to, or are reputed to be, part of the church and town estate, and which are occupied by parish paupers.

LEESON'S CHARITY. The yearly sum of 20s. received for the poor of this parish under this charity, is distributed by the churchwardens amongst poor persons considered most in need.

RENTCHARGE. The sum of 10s. a year was formerly paid to the poor of this parish out of a close called *Gorges* close, now the property of Mr. James Hill, who has resisted or refused the payment on the ground of there being no writings respecting it, nor any proof that the payment was other than a voluntary donation. The commissioners for inquiring concerning charities observe, "We have met with no documentary or other evidence respecting the origin of the payment, and we apprehend there are no adequate means of enforcing its resumption."

'Mr. Nicholas Butler gave to this parish c*l.* with which the inhabitants bought the great bell, with a velvet cushion and cloth for the pulpit.'

on the sinister the crest of Hesilrigge, and the following inscription, now almost illegible:

Tempore ereptum
Æternitati custodit
Hic lapis
JOHANNÆ HESILRIGE ARMIGERÆ.
THOMÆ HESILRIGE BARONETTI
FILII NATU TERTIUM.
Qua nobilitate genitus sit, testatur NOMEN;
Qua educatus, PIETAS; qua vixit, FAMA;
Triā hæc moriens reliquit
Æternum sibi monumentum.
Luge, Lector, sed parce; est ubi convenias
In Dei manibus.
Obiit
Annu' agens LII, Julij XXII,
MDCLV.
ELIZABETHA filiæq' ARTHURUS HÆREDES
Hæc viro, ILLE Parenti optimo.
F. M. P. P.
Scribere conabar Carnes, dolor interrupit,
Et mediis cepi versibus IPSE mori;
Exclamat MATER, satis est flevisse PARENTEM
At tibi si non vis vivere vivis MIHI.
A. H. fil.

2. Thomas Horton, 1684.

3. Joseph Horton, 23 Dec. 1699, æt. 10 mo.

4. John Horton, 14 Mar. 1689, æt. 2 mo.

5. Mrs Joyce Horton, w. of Mr James H. 21 Mar. 1731, æt. 66.

6. Louisa Horton, d. of James & Joyce H. 1725.

7. William Jervise,

Angr:

Sir, I live, am well.

'Tis true, for thy so noble spirit

Eternity must needs inherit,

Relations all in secret weep,

Now Will: Jervise lies asleep.

Enough 1649, æt. 32.

¹ Br. 1, p. 282.

² Ibid. ³ Reg. Cur. Prærog. Blanyr. Qu. 18.

⁴ Ibid.

ASHTON,

written in domesday "Asce and Aceshille," and in early records "Esse, Essene, Easton, and Asshen," is probably derived from the Saxon *æsc*, an ash tree, which sometimes stands alone in local nomenclature, and frequently occurs in different parts of the kingdom as the initial syllable combined with various terminals, as Ashby, Ashford, Ashley, and Ashton. There are two other Ashtons in this county, one in Polebrook hundred, and the other in Nassaburgh hundred.

This lordship contains about 1200 acres. In its open field state it intercommoned with Roade and Hartwell. 'A cottage near *Bosenho* mill, with five cottages on *Hartwell*-green, and a part of the green itself lie within the bounds of this parish.' The open fields, comprising more than three-fourths of the whole, were inclosed under the same act of parliament as Roade in 56 Geo. 3 (1816). The principal proprietors are George-Henry duke of Grafton, lord of the manor, who has about 900 acres, and the rector, in right of his church about 150 acres. It is bounded on the north by Roade, north-east by Quinton in Wymerley hundred, east by extra-parochial lands, formerly part of Salcey forest, and south-east by Hartwell; south by Grafton Regis, from which it is divided by the river Tove, south-west by a portion of Alderton, and west by Stoke Bruern.

The soil is principally a grey loam on limestone.

MANORIAL HISTORY. WINEMAR FEE or BARONY OF MAUDUIT*. Ashton or "Asce," as it was then written, was the freehold of *Alden** in the time of Edward the confessor, and at the domesday survey was divided into two unequal portions; the larger one, which had been rated at 8s. but was now raised to 12s. yearly, was held under Winemar by *Dodin* except the tenth part. It contained one hide and four parts of one virgate. The arable land was three carucates; of which one was in demesne with a servant; and five villeins and five bordars had the remaining two. There were five acres of meadow and a wood six furlongs long and four wide†.

The smaller portion was also held under Winemar, but by a different tenant, *Bondi*. It contained four parts of half a hide. The arable land was one carucate in the occupation of one bordar. The Saxon valuation is not given, and it was now rated at only 4s. yearly‡.

PEVEREL FEE†. *Sasfrid*† held under William Peverel half a hide, wanting the fifth part in "Aceshille" in "Chaislea" hundred, but the whole lay waste‡.

Winemar, the paramount lord, was ancestor of the Mauduits of Hanslope in Buckinghamshire. Accordingly in the hydarium of Hen. 2, *Robert* son of Anketell [Lupus] was found to hold one hide and two small virgates in "Esse" [Ashton] of the fee of William Mauduit; and in the Testa de Nevill, in the reign of Hen. 3, *Robert Lupus* was certified to hold half a fee in "Esse" and Easton Mauduit of the barony of Mauduit§.

In 9 Edw. 2 (1315) Philip le Lou answered for the fourth of a fee in Ashton of the fees of the late Guy (Beauchamp) earl of Warwick, the representative of the Mauduits; and the tenure of Ashton continued to be returned in the inquisitions of the succeeding earls.

MANOR. The family of le Lou, or Lupus, and occasionally anglicised into Wolfe, was seated here and at Easton Mauduit at an early period. *Anketil Lupus* of "Essene" (Ashton) gave rents to St. James's abbey in the time of Hen. 2¶; and his son *Robert* occurs as mesne proprietor here in the hydarium of the same reign¶. *Philip le Lou*, son, I presume, of the Robert Lupus or le Lou who was certified in the Testa de Nevill to hold Ashton and Easton Mauduit, and who married one of the coheirresses of Salceto§, made a settlement of the manor of "Asshene" on Robert le Lou, and John his son and Emma his wife, remainder to Philip son of John, in tail male, remainder to Agnes, sister of the said Philip¶. In 46 Hen. 3 (1262) *John le Lou* paid relief for his lands on decease of his father Robert, and in 25 Edw. 1 (1297) he was returned from the county of Northampton as holding lands or rents to the amount of £20 yearly and upwards, either in capite or otherwise, and as such summoned under the general writ to perform military service in person with horse and arms in parts beyond the sea¶. He died the following year; when there was a suit between Amicia his widow and Philip his son, respecting her dower in the manor of "Esshe" and the advowsons of the chapel of Esshe and a moiety of the church of Rode¶. In 29 Edw. 1 (1301) *Philip le Lou* was summoned to perform military service in person against the Scots; and in 9 Edw. 2 (1315) was returned lord of Esshton¶.

* Domesd. fo. 226 b.

† Ibid. fo. 226.

‡ Cotton. MSS. Vesp. E. xxij. fo. 96.

§ Test. Nev. fo. 108 & 160.

¶ Esc. 2 n.

‡ Esc. 2 Hen. 4, n. 38, & 24 Hen. 6, n. 43.

§ Br. MSS. E. p. 400.

¶ Cotton MSS. Vesp. E. xxij. fo. 96.

‡ Test.

Nev. fo. 108.

§ Isham MSS. No. 37. "Placit. 3 Edw. 3."

¶ Pip. North. 46 Hen. 3.

‡ Cardigan MSS. M.

¶ Isham MSS.

No. 35. "Plac. Mich. 26 Edw. 1, n. 11."

‡ Rot. Clanc. 29 Edw. 1, m. 12 & 13 d.

¶ Cardigan MSS. "Nom. VIII. p. 10.

* Vide COSGRAVE.

† Vide DESTON, vol. 1, p. 136.

‡ Vide CATESBY, vol. 1, p. 276.

§ Vide HARPOL, vol. 1, p. 176.

LE LOU, LUPUS, OR WOLFE, OF ASHTON AND EASTON MAUDUIT.

From public records, cartulary of St. James's abbey, and other authorities.

Arms. Argent, two bars and in chief three wolves' heads Gules.

.....
ANKETIL DE LOU or LUPUS, of Ashton, temp. Hen. 2.—*AMICIA*.
.....

1. ROBERT LUPUS, of LE LOU, of Ashton, temp. Hen. 2..... 2. WILLIAM LUPUS, of LE LOU..... 3. HUGH LUPUS, of LE LOU.....
.....
ROBERT LUPUS, of LE LOU, of Ashton & Easton Mauduit, dau. & coh. of Robert de Salceto, WILLIAM LUPUS, of LE LOU, of Hartwell,
19 Hen. 3 (1235). of Harpole & Plumpton, 27 Hen. 3 (1242).

PHILIP LE LOU, of Ashton, occurs 42 Hen. 3 (1256)..... JOHN LE LOU, abbot of St. James's abbey near Northampton, 1266.
.....

ROBERT LE LOU, of Ashton, ob. 46 Hen. 3 (1267).
.....

1. W. EMMA.—SIR JOHN LE LOU, of Ashton, paid relief 2. W. AMICIA, d. & coh. of William le Meere, of Herber- PHILIP LE LOU, JOHN LE LOU,.....
46 Hen. 3 (1267); occurs 17 Edw. 1 bury, co. Warw. 13 Edw. 1 (1285); claimed dower in Ashton 20 Edw. 1 (1295); ob. s. p.
(1289); dead 26 Edw. 1 (1296).

PHILIP LE LOU, of WOLF, of Ashton, occurs 1 Edw. 2—MARGERY, d. of..... AGNES, w. of Phi- ROBERT LE LOU, released Ashton to Phi-.....
(1307) & 9 Edw. 2 (1315); dead 3 Edw. 3 (1329). living 4 Edw. 3 (1320). lip Paveley. lip of Hardreshull 4 Edw. 3 (1330).
JOHN DE PAVELEY, claimed Ashton 3 Edw. 3 (1320), & released it to Philip de Hardreshull JOHN WOLF, of Easton Mauduit 20 Edw. 3 (1346).
the following year.

John de Paveley, pleading the settlement in the time of Hen. 3, and that he, as son and heir of Agnes, sister of Philip le Lou, was heir of entail, claimed the manor of "Asshene" in 3 Edw. 3 (1329) against John de Hardreshull, Philip de Hardreshull, and Margery widow of Philip le Lou, and a verdict was given in his favour; but to strengthen his title still further he brought a writ of *mort d'ancestor* against the said John de Hardreshull, William Wode, and the said Margery, who suffered judgment by default. He remised and released the manor of Asshene, together with the advowson of the church of Rode and chapel of Asshene, the same year to

Philip de Hardreshull, to whom Robert, son of John le Lou, probably the heir male, quitclaimed them the following year*. The advowson of Rode, conveyed by these releases, was in fact only a third presentation described as a moiety in a confirmatory fine levied in 14 Edw. 3 (1340) by John de Paveley to this Philip de Hardreshull, who was seated at Claworth in Nottinghamshire, and soon after transferred his estate here to

Sir John de Hardreshull, of Hartshill in Warwickshire, the representative of the elder line of the family. In 16 Edw. 3 (1342) sir John was summoned to parliament, but never afterwards; and Nicolas remarks that "Dugdale gives no account of this Baron in his Baronage; nor is he noticed by any other genealogical writer." In 20 Edw. 3 (1346) he was found to hold Asshene of the fee of Mauduit by the service of the fourth of a fee, and in 30 Edw. 3 (1356) he and Margery his wife levied a fine of this manor*. He died at an advanced age about 39 Edw. 3 (1365) and was buried in Ashton church. He left three daughters and coheirresses, and on the division of the family estates Ashton was included in the allotment to

Elizabeth the eldest, wife of John Culpeper or Colepeper, esq. whose son *Thomas Colepeper*, esq. afterwards knighted, and Eleanor his wife, levied a fine of this manor in 41 Edw. 3 (1367)*. ^bIn the fifteenth of Edw. IV. *Bryan Talbot*, esq. laid claim to it in right of *Catherine* his wife; but this claim was disputed by *sir John Colepeper*, who consented to refer the cause to *sir Thomas Billing*, lord chief justice of the common pleas, and laid himself under the obligation of a thousand marks to submit to his decision.

The annual accounts or "Compotus" of the bailiff of "Asshene" for the Colepepers from the reign of Ric. 2 to Hen. 7 are still extant; and the manor continued in the family, agreeably to the annexed pedigree, down to *sir Alexander Colepeper*, who, with *Thomas Colepeper*, esq. his son, in Dec. 29 Hen. 8 (1537), conveyed it to

The King in exchange for other lands^d; and in the following year levied a fine of the manor of Asshen with lands there and in Pulerspurty, Hartwell, and Rode, and the advowson of the chapel of Asshen and a moiety of the church of Rode, to the king in fee^e.

HARDRESHULL, BARON HARDRESHULL, AND COLEPEPER, OR CULPEPER, OF ASHTON.

From public records, heraldic visitations, and other authorities.

Arms. SIR WILLIAM HARDRESHULL temp. Edw. Or, a cross engrailed Gules, in the first quarter a martlet Vert. SIR JOHN DE HARDRESHULL. Argent, a chevron between ten martlets Gules. COLEPEPER. Argent, a bend engrailed Gules. Crest. A falcon, wings expanded Argent, beaked, legged, and belled Or.

SIR JOHN COLEPEPER,.....

SIR WILLIAM DE HARDRESHULL, of Hardreshull, now Hartshill, co. JULIANA, d. of East-
Warw. descended from Hugh de H. grantee of Anselcy, co. Warw. temp. face de Hacche; living
Hen. 1, circ. 1125; ob. 32 Edw. 1 (1303), Eze, 32 Edw. 1, n. 50. 32 Edw. 1 (1303).

SIR THOMAS COLEPEPER, of Bayhall, co. Kent.....

SIR JOHN DE HARDRESHULL, of H. & of Ash.—MARGARET, d. & coh. of sir—h. THOMAS
ton, et. 12, Eze. 32 Edw. 1, BARON HARDRESHULL, James Stafford, of Sandon, ERDENWICK.
HULL, sum. to part. 16 Edw. 3; ob. circ. 39 co. Staff.; dead 39 Edw. 3
Edw. 3 (1365); bur. at Ashton. (1365).

JOHN COLEPEPER, of Bayhall,.....

ELIZABETH, eldest d. & coh. 2. JOAN, d. & coh.—SIR JAMES BURFORD. 3. MARGARET,—SIR RICHARD
co. Kent. d. & coh. TALBOT.

* Isham MSS. No. 37, "Placit. 3 Edw. 3." * Ibid. p. 143. * Hatton MSS. "Fin. 14 Edw. 3." * Nichols's *Leic.* vol. 4, pt. 1, p. 316 & 317. * Rot. Claus. p. 1, m. 39d. * Nicolas's *Synopsis*, vol. 1, p. 303. * Isham MSS. No. 38, p. 200. * Hatton MSS. "Fin. Hill. 30 Edw. 3." * Ibid. "Fin. 41 Edw. 3." * Br. 1, p. 283. * Rot. Claus. anno 15 Edw. 4, m. 17." * Brit. Mus. Charters R. 5 to 12. * Aug. Off. Box A. 7. * Hatton MSS. "Fin. Mich. 30 Hen. 8."

1. w. ELEANOR.—Sir THOMAS COLEPEPER, of Bay- hall, co. Kent, & of Ashton; liv- ing 41 Edw. 3 (1367), & 6 Hen. 4 (1404).	2. w. JANE, d. & coh. of Nicho- las Greene, by Jane, d. & h. of John Bruse, of Exton, co. Rutland.	2. WALTER COLE.—AGNES, d. of Edmond PRIOR; living 13 Hen. 6 (1437).	3. AGNES, d. of Edmond PRIOR, of St. Dunstan's near Canterbury; ob. 1437.	3. THOMAS COLEPEPER. 4. NICHOLAS COLEPEPER.
Sir THOMAS COLEPEPER, of sir Ralph Crom- well.	1. RICHARD COLEPEPER, ob. s. p.; m. — d. & coh. of Richard Walschurst, of W. co. Sussex.	2. Sir JOHN COLEPEPER.—AGNES, d. & h. oc. 15 Edw. 4 (1475); ob. 21 Edw. 4 (1491); <i>Esc.</i> 32 Edw. 4, n. 6; bur. at Goudhurst, co. Kent.	3. NICHOLAS COLE.—ELIZABETH, d. & coh. PRIOR; ob. 2 Hen. 5 (1510). of Richard Walschurst, of W. co. Sussex.	MARGARET, ELIZABETH, THOMAS HARDY.
1. h. JOHN HARRINGTON.—CATHERINE, d. & h. of Exton, co. Rutl. esq. jure ux. (1475).	2. h. BRYAN TALBOT, son, d. of Roger Ashton jure Day, of North- fleet, co. Kent, esq. (1475).	1. w. AG- NES, d. of Sir ALEXAN- DER COLEPEPER, of Bodlebury in Goudhurst, co. Kent; sold Ash- ton 29 Hen. 5 (1337).	2. w. CON- STANTIA, d. of sir Ro- bert Cham- berlain, of Newenden, co. Kent, esq. (1337).	JOYCE, ob. m. 1525 (14 Hen. 5) 1. h. Geratio Haune, ob.; 2. h. Re- ginald Peckham, esq. ob. Feb. 1525 (16 Hen. 6).
BARON HARRINGTON, of EXTON, co. Rutl. esq. 1614. HARRINGTON, of RIDLINGTON, co. Rutl. BART.	1. w. ELLEN, d. & coh. of sir THOMAS COLEPEPER, of Bodlebury, co. Kent, esq. Kest.	2. w. HELENA, d. & coh. of sir WALTER HENDLEY, of Cran- brook, co. Kent; ob. 1606; COL- PEPER. bur. at Hunton, co. Kent; 2h. sir George Somerset, 3d s. of Charles earl of Worcester; 2h. sir Thomas Fane, of Buxton, co. Kent; m. 1566; ob. 1606.	2. THO. 3. JOHN COLE- PEPER; mtr. Miry, d. & coh. of sir Christo- pher Hals.	ELIZABETH, ob. s. p.; w. of John St. Clerc. AGNES; w. of William Molins, of co. Berks. JOAN; w. of John Fitz-James, of co. Devon. MARGARET; w. of Philip Chazell. KATHERINE; w. of Thomas Bart.
ALICE, only child; mar. sir Adam New- ington, of Titchew- ton, co. Sussex.	NEWINGTON, of TICKE- HURST, co. SUSSEX.	COLEPEPER, of BEDGEBURY, co. Kent, <i>ext.</i>		

Ashton, whilst vested in the crown, was demised by successive leases to the families of Marriott, Goldsmith, and Rye; and 'Lewis Rye, esq. of Blakesley,' was lessee in the year of Bridges', about the year 1720. The reversion of the manor on the determination of the leases (reversing the advowson) formed part of the extensive grant from king Charles II. which will be recorded under GRAFTON, and under which it has descended to *George-Henry* 4th duke of Grafton, the present proprietor (1834).

Bridges says, Mr. Lane 'hath here an old mansion-house, formerly in the possession of sir Robert Osborn, which descended to him from his ancestor *William Lane*, servant to king *Charles I.*; but this, with the estate belonging to it, is now merged in the Grafton property.

A court leet was held by the Colepepers¹. The manor was annexed to the honor of Grafton in 33 Hen. 8 (1541), and is a member of the court held there.

ST. JAMES'S ABBEY LANDS. Anketil Lupus, of Essene, for the souls of Alicia his wife and Rowland de Essene his uncle, gave to Walkelin abbot of St. James and the convent there, between 1180 and 1205, 6s. yearly out of lands in Essene^k; and Robert Lupus gave to the abbey all the culture of land called Gilbertescroft in Essene field, with an addition to the place called le Brende^k. To these donations Matilda de Rode added Hubert the son of Aluric, her native vellein, with all his goods and half a virgate of land in Essen which he held, and all her part of the land called Forlond in Essen^l; and John Clericus, son of Hugh de Rode, granted all his rents in the fields of Hartwell, Rode, and Essen, viz. four acres in Horsleia, and the fourth part of all the land which Hugh, the son of Aluric, held in Essen^m. The temporalities of St. James's abbey in Ashton were granted in 4 Edw. 6 (1550) to Richard Fernor, esq. of Easton Nestonⁿ; and his grandson sir George Fernor died seized of them in 1612^o.

THE MANOR HOUSE stood north of the church. It has long since been deserted; a broad deep moat still surrounds great part of the building.

THE VILLAGE is about eight miles south of Northampton. In the time of Bridges it consisted of 'about sixty houses^p.' By the census of 1801, it contained 55 houses and 292 inhabitants; by that of 1811, 52 houses and 270 inhabitants; by that of 1821, 69 houses and 341 inhabitants; and by that of 1831, 78 houses and 380 inhabitants. The annual quota of land tax for this parish is £120. 11s. 5d. at 4s. in the £. The estimated value of real property as assessed to the property tax of 10 per cent. for the year ending April 1815 amounted to £1346. The poor's rates for the year ending Easter 1832 raised £328. 10s. 9d. at 5s. 3d. in the £.

ADVOWSON. The earliest distinct ecclesiastical notice of Ashton which I have been able to retrieve is a plea in 26 Edw. 1 (1298) for the dower of Amicia widow of John le Lou in the manor of "Esshe" or Ashton with the advowson of the chapel of Esshe and a moiety of the church of Rode, against Philip le Lou, son of the said John 4. The subsequent descent of the advowson has been incidentally introduced under the manor, which it accompanied till the grant by king Charles II. in trust for the first duke of Grafton, when it was reserved, and still continues vested in the crown.

THE RECTORY is in the deanry of Preston. Ashton was originally a member of the mother church of ROAD, and annexed to that portion of it which was in the patronage of the lords of Ashton. So situated it is of course omitted in the ecclesiastical taxations of 1254 and 1291, and it did not emerge from its dependence till the beginning of the sixteenth century; when it was invested with distinct parochial rights, and the portion or third of Road church, to which the chapel of Ashton had been heretofore subordinate, became in its turn subordinate to Ashton. In the ecclesiastical survey of 1535 (26 Hen. 8) the rectory of Asshene was rated at £10. 3s. 6³d. *per ann.*, deducting 3s. 6³d. for synodals and procurations to the archdeacon of Northampton^r. The parliamentary commissioners in 1655 certified

¹ Br. 1, p. 283.

² Br. MSS. E. p. 400.

³ Br. 1, p. 282.

⁴ Pat. 21 June 25 Car. 2, p. 2, n. 8.

⁵ Ibid. p. 394.

⁶ Ibid. p. 398.

⁷ Ibid. MSS. No. 35. "Placid. in Banco, Mich. 26 Edw. 1, r. 11."

⁸ Br. 1, p. 283.

⁹ Pat. 28 Mar. 4 Edw. 6, p. 9.

¹⁰ Augm. Off.

¹¹ Brit. Mus. Charters, R. 13.

¹² Esc. 11 Jac. p. 2, n. 9.

it to be a parsonage presentative worth £100 *per ann.* with what it received from Roade, and that Mr. William Clevor received the profits and supplied the cure by order from the commissioners of plundered ministers, in the room of Mr. Whitford who was sequestered*. The rector has a rectorial manor with certain annual quitrents in Ashton and Roade; and prior to the inclosure of those parishes in 1816, was entitled to glebe lands in Ashton; all tithes of the open fields and old inclosures in Ashton except of about 53 acres in Ashton and Hartwell, or one of them; and all tithes of certain parts of the open fields of Roade and one half of all tithes of other specified lands in Roade containing about 33 acres, subject to the payment of £10 one year out of every three years to the curate or vicar of Roade for every; in lieu of which glebe lands and tithes in Ashton, and of the tithes in Roade after deducting an allotment to the vicar of Roade in discharge of the before-mentioned payment, the commissioners for inclosing Roade and Ashton allotted 150a. 1r. 36p. of land. The rectory house stands west of the church yard, and was re-built by the late incumbent under Gilbert's act.

RECTORS. The rectors of Roade officiated as chaplains of Ashton till the time of *John Day*, who was instituted 31 Jan. 1516; in whose incumbency the benefice was converted into the rectory of Ashton, and who occurs as rector of "Asshene" in 1535†.

John Sibthorp was presented by the queen, and inst. 17 May 1564, on the decease of the last incumbent.

William Whalley was inst. 25 Nov. 1591.

Edmund Easton, A.M. was inst. 20 Apr. 1611, on the cession of the last incumbent. He was rector of Harrington from 1605 to 1621, and of Quinton from 1619 to 1621. His death introduced

Robert Lane, B.D. who was inst. 22 Mar. 1621-2.

Henry Wilde, A.M. rector of Alderton, was inst. 31 July 1634, on the presentation of sir Francis Crane, p. h. v. He was rector of Pitsford from 1636, and was buried there 6 Dec. 1640, when he was succeeded in this benefice by

John Whitford, who was inst. 10 Feb. 1640-1. He was son of Dr. Walt. Whitford, bishop of Brechin in Scotland, who refusing the covenant was banished to England, and presented by king Charles I. to the rectory of Walgrave. The rector of Ashton being sequestered by the parliamentary committee at Northampton in 1643, took refuge with his father at Walgrave, but he also suffering sequestration soon after, Mr. W. retired to a neighbouring village, and lived in privacy. His pulpit here was supplied by

William Clevor, "a beardless boy of eighteen," and an immoral character, according to Walker^u. He occurs in 1655*, but was superseded at the restoration, by the ejected rector

John Whitford, who died here in 1667.

John Clarke occurs in 1682, and died in 1700, when

Benjamin King, of Emanuel coll. Camb. A.M. 1680, and of Exeter coll. Oxf. D.D. 1701, was inst. 3 Oct. 1700. He married Sarah, daughter of the rev. Dr. John Conant,

vicar of All Saints, Northampton, on whose resignation in 1689 he succeeded to that living, and was himself succeeded by his son Benjamin King in 1716. He was installed to a prebend in Gloucester cathedral in Sept. 1700, and in 1715 obtained the vicarage of St. Mary de Lode in that city, where he died in 1728. He resigned Ashton, and his successor

Robert Crosley, of Christ ch. coll. Oxf. A.M. was inst. 29 Aug. 1712. He was buried here 19 Jan. 1730-1*, and

Henry Gally, of Bene't coll. Camb. D.D. a native of Beckenham in Kent, was inst. 5 Mar. following. In 1721 he was elected lecturer of St. Paul's, Covent Garden, and inst. to the rectory of Wavendon in Buckinghamshire the same year. The lord chancellor King preferred him successively to a prebend in Gloucester and Norwich, to this rectory, and to that of St. Giles in the Fields, Middlesex. He died in 1769. Besides several single sermons, he published, "The Moral Characters of Theophrastus, translated from the Greek," 1725, 8vo. "The reasonableness of church and college fines asserted, and the rights which churches and colleges have in their estates defended," 1731, 8vo. "Some considerations on clandestine marriages," 1750, 8vo. "A Dissertation against pronouncing the Greek Language according to the Accents," 1754, 8vo. "A Second Dissertation on the same subject," 1762, 8vo. &c. He held this living only two years, *Ralph Brookes* being inst. 13 Jan. 1732. On his resignation

Robert Harding, of Exeter coll. Oxf. A.M. vicar of Potterspury, was inst. 19 Dec. 1739. He was buried at Potterspury 18 Apr. 1767, and was succeeded here by

John Risley, of New coll. Oxf. A.M. who was inst. 9 July following. He was also rector of Tingewick near Buckingham. He resigned in favour of his son

John Risley, jun. of New coll. Oxf. A.M. 1808, who was inst. 4 July 1799. He is also rector of Thornton near Buckingham.

THE REGISTERS in the time of Bridges began 'in 1538'; the present registers of baptisms and marriages commence in 1682, and of burials in 1710.

THE CHURCH dedicated to St. Michael consists of a low tower with four bells, nave, south porch, north aisle, and chancel. It is built of rubble stone, and is of the late Perpendicular period. Most of the windows are of three lights with the mullions carried through to the head and simply cinquefoiled. The tower is 13 ft. 9 in. long by 9 ft. 9 in. wide; the nave 40 ft. 9 in. long, by 20 ft. 6 in. wide; the aisle 38 ft. 9 in. long by 16 ft. 4 in. wide; and the chancel 27 ft. 9 in. by 16 ft. wide. The interior is neatly paved, and the pews partly modernised. There is a plain circular font under the arch opposite the south door. The entrance from the nave to the tower is built up. The nave is divided from the north aisle by two wide pointed arches on short octagonal pillars with shallow capitals of plain mouldings. The nave and chancel are of one pace without distinction. Bridges says, 'in the window [of the chancel] is the broken portrait of a person crowned, and a small entire figure of a person with a pall on his breast. In the same window are also the remains of an inscription supposed for one of the family of *Colepeper* y.' None of these are now remaining.

* Lambeth MSS. vol. 20.

† Angm. Off.

^u Walker's Sufferings of the Clergy, p. 402.

* Par. Reg.

† Br. 1, p. 263.

MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS.

NORTH AISLE. I. At the west end, under the south wall, on a slab raised upon bricks, is the wooden figure of a crossed-legged knight much mutilated and worm-eaten. The shield and sword are gone, but the belts for them cross the hauberk. It may safely be referred to one of the Le Lou or Wolfe family in the thirteenth century.

II. Opposite to it, under the north wall, on an altar tomb, the front of which is divided by trefoil-headed arches, is the effigy of sir John Hardreshull in plate armour. He has a close pointed helmet from which depends a camail of ring-mail; the same kind of mail is also introduced under the arms and the tassettes. A studded belt crosses his waist. His hands and feet have disappeared. His head reposes on a double cushion supported by two, now decapitated, angels, and his feet on a lion. Round the verge of the slab, now partly hid and obliterated, was inscribed,

Mons. Johan de Hardreshull gist par Dieu de sa alme et mercy.
Amen.

III. On the slab of an altar monument of stone at the east end, are the brass figures about 2 ft. 9 in. long of Robert Marriott and his wife. He is bareheaded with a flowing beard; and habited in a merchant's gown faced with miniver. She has a close head-dress with small lappets; and an open robe falling back over the shoulders, disclosing a high full dress frilled under the chin. Beneath the figures is the following inscription, under which in two groups are nine sons and six daughters.

Robert Marriott here dothe lye, A Homan blesyd with goodde,
Whose soule dothe dwell with God on his hebrend by Christes bloudde.
For whyle by Christe in tyme of tref before he came to grave,
The ffre forgyvedes of his synnes by faythe he hoped to have.
In England bred, in Ashton dwelte, an auncient marich man.
Where goodes he left, a name is gowen to Ashton from whence he cam;
Quene Elizabeth for his wofe fferre before he dyed.
And was in Ashton maner tounge to them a lobyng guyde.
And then when deathe came steeleing on his fawcett he dyd make,
And we are taught by proufe in hym the same waie we shal take.
God graunte for love of Christe his soune when deathe shal us asseyte,
We maie be fownde as Mariott was with faithfull hartes in breste.

IV. Against the south wall is suspended a wooden frame, within which is painted a shield with mantling, helmet, and crest, a smaller shield at each corner, and beneath them an inscription hastening to decay.

I. Centre shield, G. a chevron between three goldfinches Ar. on a chief O. a lion passant of the 1st, *Gouldsmith*; impaling, Quarterly, 1 & 4. per pale indented Ar. & S. a saltire Counterchanged, *Scott*, 2. G. semee of cross crosslets, three boars' heads coupé Ar. *Swinborne*, 3. G. a bar Ar. cotised O. between two frets Ar. Crest. On a wreath Ar. & G. a Cornish chough Proper, guttée d'Eau.

II. *Gouldsmith*, impaling, O. three piles in point G. on a canton Ar. a mullet S. *Onley*.

III. *Scott*, impaling, Ar. a fess G. between three eagles displayed S. *Leedes*.

IV. Ar. a fess S. between three roses slipped Proper, impaling, Ar. three lion rampant S.

V. a square chaplet Ar. & S. tasselled O. impaling G. a fess engrailed, between three bulls' heads coupé Ar.

Near to this place lieth interred the body of Francis Gouldsmith, Esq. the sonne of Francis, the sonne of St Francis Gouldsmith, of Crayford.

in the County of Kent, Knight, hee married Mary, the Dau. and sole heire of Richard Scott, of Little Lees in Essex, Esquier. Hee died the 29th of August 1655, and had issue Francis and Francis Gouldsmith, who died both young, living at his death Katherine his only daughter & heire in

memory of whom his deare & loving wife hath caused this to be erected.

On slabs:

1. HERE LIETH THE BODY OF MARY MARIOTT, THE WIFE OF JOHN MARIOTT, YE ELDER GENT. WHO DIED UPON THE 30th DAY OF JULY IN THE YEARE 1661, AND THE 68th YEARE OF HER AGE.
Mm est CHRISTUS et in vita et Morte lucrum. Phil. 1, 21.

Here lieth the body of Mrs Elizabeth Tibbs, widow Daughter of Mr John Marriott, of this parish, & Mary his wife. She Died Aug. 29th 1707, in the 77 year of her age.

2. On a black marble slab, () on a bend () three water bougets, *Dring*, impaling, *Mariott*.

HERE LYETH THE BODY OF MARGARET, THE WIFE OF Mr THOMAS DRING, & YOUNGEST DAUGHTER OF JOHN MARIOTT, OF THIS PARISH GENT. BY MARY HIS WIFE. BOTH DECEASED THE WIFE MARGARET HAD BY THE sd THO. DRING ISSUE THREE CHILDREN, ALEXANDER, MARGARET, AND ROBERT, ALL DEAD, SHEE DEPARTED THIS LIFE YE 20th DAY OF DECEMBER 1667, IN YE 33d YEARE OF HER AGE.

3. HERE LIETH THE BODY OF JOHN MARIOTT, JUNIOR, GENT. THE SON OF JOHN & MARY MARIOTT, WHO DIED UPON THE 8 DAY OF JULY IN THE YEARE 1661, AND THE 38th YEARE OF HIS AGE.
BEATI QUI IN DOMINO MORIUNTUR.

4. On a black marble slab, (O.) a chevron (S.) between three (Torteaues) each charged with an escallop (Ar.) *Dacres*, impaling *Gouldsmith*.

FRANCIS GOLDSMITH, of Grays Inn, Esq. Buried August 29th 1655.
MARY, Relict of FRANCIS, November 24th 1675.
DAME KATHERINE, wife of St HENRY DACRES, of LONDON, Kt Daughter of FRANCIS & MARY, March 22d 1684.

5. On a collateral black marble slab, (O.) a chevron chequy (G. & Az.) between three cinquefoils (G.) *Cooke*.

Here lyeth the body of John Cooke, Esq. of this parish, descended by his father and Grandfather of ye same name from the

CLELEY HUNDRED.

Antient family of *ys Cooke* of Hynam
in *ye County of Gloucester*, he departed
this life June *ye* 10th 1695,

Aged 54.

Mrs Anne Cooke, Relict of
John Cooke, Esq. Was Buried
June *ye* 1st { Dom. 1720,
An^o. 1^{er} Etat. 82.

CHANCEL. V. On the south side of the altar, is a small mural tablet of black marble within a white border, surmounted by (Ar.) a bend (S.) between two garbs (G.) *Whitford*, impaling *Marriott*. Crest. On a wreath a garb (O.)

In Memory of

Mr John Whitford, Rectr of this Parish,
and Judith his Wife,

Both Interr'd near this Place.

He was the son of Mr Walter Whitford
(who was Bp. of Brichen in Scotland, was
Plunder'd & Sequest'd in 1639, and after

Rector of Walgrave in this County)
and died Octobr 9th 1667.
She was Daughter of Mr John Marriott,
of this Parish & Mary his Wife,
and died Mar. *ye* 5th 1706,
in the 31st year of her age.

VI. On the north side of the altar is a mural monument of white marble. Beneath the inscription are swords, spears, and warlike emblems, and above it, Az. a chevron between three larks O. *Lestock*, surmounted by the heads of two cherubim.

To the Memory of Captain
Richard Lestock, Sent,
Justice of Peace for
the County of Middlesex,
who was buried
near this place
May the 12th 1718,
in *ye* 71st year
of his Age.

BENEFACTIONS (v'de p. 116). POOR'S LAND. An allotment of 5a. 2r. 7p. was awarded on the inclosure to the minister, churchwardens, and overseers of the poor, in lieu of some lands held immemorially for the poor.

The rent of the land before the inclosure which was about 12s. was distributed among the poor. The present rent, which is £6 *per ann.* is given away in coals.

LOST BENEFACTIONS. The sum of £50 which arose under a gift for the poor by *Catherine Chivall* and *Elizabeth Chivall* in 1708 has been lost many years ago, through the insolvency of a person to whom it was advanced on loan.

COSGRAVE.

is written in domesday and in early records "Covesgrave," but melted down in modern times to Cosgrave. The terminating syllable *grave* in the Saxon signifies a wood, but its connection with the initiatory one does not admit of a satisfactory solution. This parish, prior to the inclosure, was inconveniently and inexplicably intermingled with Potterspury. Part of Cosgrave village green with two houses were in the latter parish, and part of Brownswood green adjoining the village of Potterspury was in Cosgrave parish, and another isolated portion of this parish, called Ken-son field, was inclosed under the same act of parliament as Potterspury and Yardley Gobion in 15 Geo. 3 (1775). The open fields of Cosgrave, "consisting of three distinct Tythings, called Cosgrave Tything, Furtho Tything, and Potterspury Tything," computed at "1700 hundred acres or thereabouts," but on actual survey only 1626 acres were inclosed by act of parliament in 7 Geo. 3 (1767), when the part of Cosgrave green, reputed to be in Potterspury was, from and after the passing of the act, transferred to the manor and parish of Cosgrave, and the part of Brownswood green reputed to be in Cosgrave, was transferred to the manor and parish of Potterspury. The lordship of Cosgrave contains altogether about 1760 acres, of which about 1100 acres belong to John Christopher Mansel, esq. lord of the manor; about 235 acres to the rector, in right of his church; about 220 acres to George-Henry duke of Graf-ton; and nearly 100 acres to the rector of Furtho. Potterspury and Yardley Gobion bound it on the north; the river Tove divides it from Hanslope and Castlethorpe in Buckinghamshire on the east; the river Ouse separates it from Wolverton in the same county on the south-east, and from Stony Stratford in the same county on the south; Old Stratford adjoins it on the south-west, and Passenham on the north-west. The soil is various; principally clay and loam; and there is some rich meadow land bordering on the rivers. About two-thirds of the lordship is arable.

The water mill is on the river Tove, which unites with the Ouse nearly opposite to major Mansel's house. Near the village green is a chalybeate spring, formerly called St. Vincent's, and now corrupted into Finches well, which was reserved to the use of the inhabitants under the inclosure act.

The Grand Junction Canal intersects both the lordship and the village; and is carried over the river Ouse and across the long valley to Wolverton, a distance of nearly a mile, by a stupendous embankment. This aqueduct was

originally constructed on arches, and was first opened on the 26th of August 1805. The contractors guaranteed a trial of twelve months; but, before the expiration of half that period, leakages and other indications of instability became apparent, and at length a sudden disruption took place, and inundated the surrounding country. The breach was, however, promptly repaired, and in the course of another year a solid embankment was substituted, along which a cast iron channel much narrower than the general width of the navigation was supplied, and is still in use for the transit of the barges.

MANORIAL HISTORY. WINEMAR FEE, OR BARONY OF HANSLOPE. *Alden*, already noticed as the Saxon lord of Ashton, had also the principal estate in "Covesgrave," rated at 10s. yearly. This, as well as Ashton, was given by the Norman conqueror to *Winemar*, who held it in demesne. It was then doubled in value, and contained half a hide and the fifth part of a virgate. The arable land was one carucate and a half, of which one was in demesne with three bordars. There was a mill worth 13s. yearly; five acres of meadow; and a wood three furlongs in length and two in breadth^a.

Alden or *Aldene*, and probably the same individual who in other entries is written *Halden* and *Haldenus*, must have been no inconsiderable personage, as he had possessions in the counties of Northampton, Leicester, Nottingham, Derby, Chester, York, Lincoln, Suffolk, Hertford, Buckingham, and Berks^b. Whether the whole was the property of one person, or of contemporaries of the same name, may indeed be doubted; but the lord of Cosgrave may safely be identified with *Aldene*, who under *Hanslope* in Buckinghamshire is styled *huscal* of king Edward the confessor^c, a term which is supposed to indicate a domestic servant and sometimes a military retainer; and under *Chearsley* in the same county as a feudatory of king Harold, or *earl* Harold, as he is designated, his title to the throne not being there recognised^d.

Winemar, besides his portion of Cosgrave, had the whole or parts of Easton Mauduit, Hanington, Ashton, and Easton Neston^e; and was also mesne lord of Preston Deanry and Hackleton under the bishop of Constance^f, of Wotton under Walter Flandrensis^g, of Rotherthorp under Geoffrey Anselyn^h, of Knuston under Gunfrid de Ciochesⁱ or Chokes, and of Boscate, Dodington, Brayfield, Houghton, Preston Deanry, and Quinton, under the countess Judith^l. So ignorant were the Norman scribes of the names of the tenants in chief, or so careless of preserving their identity, that *Winemar* occurs under four different designations; in most of the Northamptonshire entries he has that appellation only, but as claimant of Piddington and Wollaston, against the countess Judith, he appears with the addition of *de Anslope* and *de Hanslope*^k, and it is still more singular that under *Hanslope* he is not described by that local addition, but as *Winemar Flandr*^l [Flandrensis], though every circumstance combines in proof that the same individual is intended. The site selected for his castle in *Hanslope*, now called *Castlethorp*, is bordering on Cosgrave parish, which accounts for his retaining Cosgrave in his demesne. *Michael de Hanslope* surrendered his inheritance, and Maud his daughter to the disposal of king Henry I. who bestowed them both on

William Mauduit his chamberlain; and Henry duke of Normandy, afterwards king Henry II. confirmed to the succeeding *William Mauduit* the office of chamberlain, and the castle and honor of Porchester in Hampshire, with all the lands of *Michael de Hanslope* in as ample a manner as given to his father^m. This *William* in 14 Hen. 2 (1167) certified his barony to consist of four fees and a half of the old and new feoffmentⁿ. *William*, the last heir male of the elder line of Mauduit, succeeded to the earldom of Warwick on the decease of John de Plessetis, second husband of Margaret Newburgh^o. Dying without issue in 52 Hen. 3 (1267)^p Isabel, his sister and heiress, carried the earldom to the Beauchamps^q; and not only the paramount but the beneficiary interest in Cosgrave, it will be subsequently shewn, became vested in that noble family.

HANSLOPE, AND MAUDUIT OF HANSLOPE, EARL OF WARWICK.

From Dugdale's Baronage, with additions and corrections from public records.

Arms. MAUDUIT. Argent, two bars Gules.

WINEMAR, called also WINEMAR de Anslope or Hanslope, and Winemar Flandrensis, lord of Cosgrave, &c. and mesne lord of Preston Deanry, &c. temp. Will. conq.		MAUDUIT.	
MICHAEL DE HANSLOPE, BUTT, lord of Cosgrave, &c. and mesne lord of Preston Deanry, &c. temp. Will. conq.	2. WALTER FITZ-WINEMAR, of Walter de OLANNA. Preston, temp. Hen. 1.	WILLIAM DE MAUDUIT, lord of Porchester, co. Hants, &c. temp. Will. conq.	
	Vide PRESTON DEANRY.		
MAUD, daughter and heiress, to whom Hen. I. gave her father's lands in marriage with William Mauduit.	WILLIAM MAUDUIT, of Hanslope, co. Bucks, <i>jure ux.</i> chamberlain of the exchequer to Hen. 1.		
1. ROBERT MAUDUIT, chamberlain of the exchequer temp. Hen. 1, shipwrecked with prince William, s. of Hen. 1, in Nov. 1130 (1 Hen. 1).	2. WILLIAM MAUDUIT, chamberlain of the exchequer s. Steph. (1140); certified his barony 14 Hen. 2 (1167); living 7 Ric. (1195).	JOHN MAUDUIT, living 14 Hen. 2 (1167).	
....., d. & h. WILLIAM DE MAUDUIT, of Hanslope, co. Bucks, <i>jure ux.</i> chamberlain of the exchequer; ob. 4 Steph. POSTLECHASE (1139).	ROBERT MAUDUIT, of Warminster, co. Wilts, chamberlain of the exchequer; ob. circ. 6 Hen. 3 (1201).	JOHN MAUDUIT, of Easton Mauduit temp. Joh. 1.	
		Vide EASTON MAUDUIT.	
1. WILLIAM MAUDUIT, of Hanslope, co. Bucks, chamberlain of the exchequer; ob. 41 Hen. 3 (1256). <i>Etc.</i> 41 Hen. 3, n. 21.	ALICE, d. of Waleran (Newburgh), earl of Warwick; mar. temp. Joh.	2. ROBERT MAUDUIT, of Warminster, co. Wilts, by grant from his father.	AGNES DE BARDGET; w. of sir Erasmus LA MER. Seyton.
		MAUDUIT, of WARMINSTER, co. Wilts.	Vide MAUDWELL.
WILLIAM MAUDUIT, of Hanslope, co. Bucks, chamberlain of the exchequer; st. 36 <i>Etc.</i> 41 Hen. 3; EARL OF WARWICK on the decease of Plessetis 47 Hen. 3 (1252-3); ob. s. p. s. Jan. 52 Hen. 3 (1267-8). <i>Etc.</i> 52 Hen. 3, n. 17; his heart buried in Catesby priory and his body in Westminister abbey.	ALICE, d. of Gilbert de Segrave.	ISABEL, sist. & heiress, st. 30. <i>Etc.</i> 52 Hen. 3; took the veil [Beauchamp, of Elmley, co. Wor.; ob. 52 Hen. 3, (1268-9); bur. in Catesby priory and his body in Westminister abbey.	WILLIAM DE BEAUCHAMP, baron Beauchamp, of Elmley, co. Wor.; ob. 52 Hen. 3, (1268-9); bur. in Catesby priory and his body in Westminister abbey.

^a Domesd. fo. 226b.

^b Ellis's Domesd. Index, T. R. E.

^c Domesd. fo. 150.

^d Ibid. fo. 227.

^e Ibid. fo. 228, &c.

^f Ibid. fo. 229.

^g Ibid. fo. 152.

^h Lab. Nig. 1, p. 190.

ⁱ *Etc.* 52 Hen. 3, n. 17.

^j Vide NORTON, vol. 1, p. 414.

^k Vide POTTERSPURY.

VOL. II.

2 L

MORETON FEE *. HONOR OF LEICESTER †. HONOR OF BERKHAMPTSD ‡. Two other and smaller portions of "Covesgrave" were of the Moreton fee. One was the Saxon freehold of *Godwin*, valued at 5s. yearly, but reduced to 4s. yearly at the domesday survey, when it was held in demesne by the earl of Moreton. It contained four parts of half a hide. There was one carucate in the occupation of three villeins §.

The other was the Saxon freehold of *Alric* §. It was then, and at the survey, rated at 20s. yearly, and was held by *Humphrey* || under the earl of Moreton. It contained five parts of a hide, and was within the soke of Passenham. The arable land was a carucate and a half occupied by four bordars. There were ten acres of meadow, and two quarentines or furlongs of underwood ¶.

MANOR. In the hydarium of Hen. 2, *Robert Ryvell* or *Revell* ¶ was returned to hold in Covesgrave eight small virgates, *William le Brun* six small virgates, and one *Adam* nine small virgates §, but of what fees is not recorded. In 3 Ric. (1191) *Robert Revell* owed £100 for seisin of his lands in Covesgrave, Puxley, and other places in the county ¶. In the Testa de Nevill about 19 Hen. 3 (1235) *Roger Revell* accounted for a small fee in "Covesgrave," *Tiffield*, Puxley, and Bucky, parcel of the five fees which *Richard de Keynes* ** held of the small fees of Moreton §, and this fee is again found amongst the five fees held by sir *Thomas Leukenore*—the representative of *Keynes*—of the late *Edmund* earl of Lancaster and Leicester in 25 Edw. 1 (1297) †. Under *Leukenor* this land in Cosgrave, containing twenty-one virgates, was in the tenure of *John de Cumenton* ‡; and in 25 Edw. 1 (1297) his daughter *Joan*, widow of *John de Mershe*, junior, quitclaimed and released them to *Henry Spigurnell* and *Sarah* his wife §. Half a fee of the three fees of the small fees of Moreton and honor of *Aquila* ||, for which sir *William de Montacute* rendered seutage about 19 Hen. 3 (1235), was in "Covesgrave?"; but on the death of *Edmund* earl of Cornwall in 28 Edw. 1 (1300) it occurs amongst the fees of the honor of Berkhamptsd §.

In 9 Edw. 2 (1315) *Henry Spigurnell* was certified to be lord of Cosgrave §; and in 11 Edw. 2 (1317) *Sarah* daughter of *Adam Aylmer* released to sir *Henry Spigurnell*, lord of Covesgrave, and *Sarah* his wife all the lands which had belonged to *Stephen* her brother there, and at *Furtho* §. He died in 2 Edw. 3 (1328), and the inquisition exhibits a curious specimen of the complicated and ramified tenures into which many parishes were split at that period. The site of the manor of Covesgrave, ten messuages, eight virgates of land, twelve acres of wood, and a rent charge of 21s. 8d. in Covesgrave and Puxley, were held of the heir of the earl of Warwick within age and in ward to the king, as of the manor of *Hanslope*, by service of the eighth part of a fee, 10s. yearly, and suit and service every three weeks at the earl's court at *Hanslope*. Twelve acres and a half called *Puxley Stokkyn*, was held of the king in capite. Certain lands in Covesgrave and *Furtho* were held of *Henry de Furtho*, by suit at his court of *Furtho*, and the hundred court of Cleley every three weeks. Six messuages and four virgates of land in Covesgrave, and fifty acres of wood in Puxley were held of sir *Thomas de Leukenore* by service of the eighth part of a fee. Five messuages and six virgates of land in Cosgrave—probably in Old Stratford—were held of *John de Blount*, the lord of *Passenham*. Half a virgate of land in Covesgrave was held of *Adam de Combemartin*, lord of *Stoke Bruere*. Four messuages, a virgate of land, and a rent charge of 20s. in Covesgrave, were held of the king as of the honor of Berkhamptsd. And certain lands in Cosgrave were held of the prior of the hospital of *St. John of Jerusalem* as of the fee of the knights templars. He was succeeded by his son *Thomas Spigurnell* aged thirty years §, who in 13 Edw. 3 (1339) levied a fine of the manor of Covesgrave to

Henry Burghersh, bishop of Lincoln §. He survived but two years, when *Walter de Paveley* was found to be his cousin and next heir, aged twenty-five years §, but in 21 Edw. 3 (1347) he released his right in this manor, excepting the assart called *Spigurnell's Stokking*, to

Richard le Forester §, of PUXLEY; and two successive *Thomas Foresters* died seised of certain lands here, but the manor appears to have been alienated to the

Beauchamps earls of Warwick, the lords of the Mauduit fee, of whom a pedigree will be introduced under POTTERS-PURY. On the imprisonment and attainder of *Thomas Beauchamp*, earl of Warwick, in 21 Ric. 2 (1397), his manor of Cosgrave, valued at £30 yearly, was (int. al.) granted to sir *Henry Green* §, of DRATTON; but on the accession of *Henry IV.* he was restored to his title and estates §, and this manor attended the fortunes of the earldom in its alternations of forfeiture and restoration during the struggle of the rival roses, down to *Anne* countess of Warwick, who in 3 Hen. 7 (1487) by a special deed and fine conveyed her vast inheritance to

The King and the heirs male of his body, with remainder to herself and her heirs for ever §. The manor of "Cosgrave, alias Covesgrave," remained in the crown till 5 Edw. 6 (1551) when it was granted (int. al.) to

Sir *Nicholas Throgmorton* §, of PAULERS-PURY, whose son sir *Arthur Throgmorton* settled it with the advowson on *Elizabeth*, his third daughter and coheir, in marriage with

Richard (Lennard) lord Dacre §. Francis lord Dacre, their son, sold them in May 1653 to

Gervays Andrews, of London, gent. by whom the manor house and farm were sold the following month to *Christopher Rigby*, of London, esq. and the manor and advowson in Aug. 1654 to

William lord Maynard. By various mesne conveyances the manor passed to

John Beauchamp, gent. who devised it to his son-in-law lieutenant *William Gurney* in the Irish service, and *Elizabeth* his wife, who left two daughters and coheirresses, *Elizabeth*, wife of *William Brookes*, gent. and *Mary*, wife of *Littleton Westley*, gent. Brookes, with Westley and his wife, conveyed the manor in 1750 to

¶ Domesd. fo. 223.

* Cotton MSS. Vesp. E. xxii. fo. 96.

† Dp. North. 3 Ric.

‡ Test. Nev. fo. 123.

§ Esc. 25 Edw. 1, n. 51.

¶ Cardigan MSS. "Nom. Vill." p. 69.

§ Islam MSS. No. 35, p. 34.

¶ Placit. Mich. 35 Edw. 1.

‡ Test. Nev. fo. 129 & 139.

§ Esc. 2 Edw. 3, n. 29.

¶ Cardigan MSS. "Nom. Vill." p. 9.

§ Placit. Hillar. 11 Edw. 2, n. 47.

¶ Placit. Hillar. 11 Edw. 2, n. 47.

‡ Esc. 2 Edw. 3, n. 29.

§ Placit. Hillar. 11 Edw. 2, n. 47.

¶ Cardigan MSS. "Fin. 13 Edw. 3."

§ Esc. 15 Edw. 3, n. 39, & Rot. Orig. 16 Edw. 3, n. 17.

¶ Class. 21 Edw. 3, p. 2, & Esc. 35 Edw. 3.

‡ Pat. 21 Ric. 2, p. 1, m. 1.

§ Rot. Parl. 1 Hen. 4.

¶ Rot. Parl. 1 Hen. 4.

§ Claus. 3 Hen. 7, & Fin. Hill. 3 Hen. 7.

¶ Pat. 7 Dec. 3 Edw. 6, p. 3.

‡ Mansel evidence.

§ Vide DODDGE, vol. 1, p. 120.

¶ Vide DODDGE, vol. 1, p. 120.

§ Vide DODDGE, vol. 1, p. 349.

¶ Vide BLAKESLEY, p. 21.

‡ Vide MOUTON, vol. 1, p. 46.

§ Vide BRINGTON, vol. 1, p. 105.

¶ Vide BRINGTON, vol. 1, p. 105.

§ Vide BUCKY.

¶ Vide GREYFORTH, vol. 1, p. 507.

‡ Vide FRESTON CAPES, vol. 1, p. 431.

§

Christopher Rigny, esq. grandson of the purchaser of the manor house, and sheriff of the county in 1734. In August 1764 he sold all his estate here, comprising the manor, manor house, water mill, and lands to

John Biggin, of London, esq.¹ His second son, but heir by survivorship, *George Biggin*, esq. was a gentleman of considerable literary and scientific attainments. He was one of the trustees of the Opera house and of Drury Lane theatre; and distinguished himself as an aeronaut in 1785 by ascending in Lunardi's balloon from Arnold's rotunda in St. George's fields, accompanied by Mrs. Sage. A considerable portion of his time was spent on the continent in pursuit of information; and his strenuous exertions to render his scientific acquirements useful in the arts, particularly agriculture and tanning, led to an intimate association with that truly noble patron of the useful arts, the late duke of Bedford. During one of his long and frequent visits at Woburn abbey, he made experiments on the barks of different kinds of wood gathered in the spring of 1798, with a view to determine the proportions of the tanning principle which they contained, and which being afterwards printed in the Philosophical Transactions, have, from their novelty and utility, been copied into nearly all the chemical and philosophical works since published. Among other improvements of less note, Mr. B. invented a new sort of coffee-pot, which has been ever since extensively manufactured and sold under the name of Coffee Biggin. He died almost suddenly on the 3d of Nov. 1803, having by will in 1794 devised his Cosgrave estate to his nephew

George Mansel, esq. youngest son of the late general Mansel, from whom it has passed by settlement and devise to his eldest brother *John Christopher Mansel*, esq. the present proprietor (1834).

The Mansels have had an interest here, though not the manor, from the time of James 1st. The annexed pedigree exhibits them as the representatives of the second line from Ralph Mansell, who was seated in the neighbouring county of Buckingham in the twelfth century; and a curious poetical history of a domestic tragedy in the family from a MS. in possession of T. P. Maunsell, esq. of Thorp Malsor, the representative of the elder line, with historical illustrations, will be found in the first volume of the "Collectanea Topographica et Genealogica," an interesting antiquarian periodical now in course of publication.

Edward Furtho, esq. died in 19 Jac. (1621) seised of the manor of Furtho, and a capital message in Cosgrave late Lee's, held of sir Arthur Throgmorton, and another capital message there parcel of the honor of Leicester and duchy of Lancaster^m. On the partition of his estates between his two sisters and coheirresses, Cosgrave was assigned to *Nightingale*, then wife of Samuel Maunsell, esq. and afterwards of Francis Longueville, esq. One of the capital messages descended to the Mansels, and the other she conveyed in her second widowhood in 1659 to her son Henry Longueville, esq. whose son Henry Longueville, esq. devised his estate here in 1741 to

John Mansel, esq. youngest son of the rev. Christopher Mansel, then within age. He entered the army in early life, rose to the rank of a major-general, and in the duke of York's campaign in 1794 had the command of a brigade of heavy cavalry. On the 23d of April prince Cobourg requested the duke to make a reconnaissance in the direction of the camp of Cœsar near Cambray, where it was known the French had assembled in great force; and accordingly general Mansel's brigade, forming part of general Otto's detachment, was ordered about a league in front of the camp. Early the next morning the 15th light dragoons, with two squadrons of Austrian hussars, charged the enemy with such force and velocity, that had they been properly supported a complete victory would have followed, but by some mistake general Mansel's brigade did not arrive in time. The blame for this unfortunate delay must surely have rested alone with Otto as having the command, and not on general Mansel, who acted, it may be presumed, according to his instructions; but impatient of the slightest, though undeserved, imputation on his zeal or courage, the general, when the French renewed the attack on the 26th, devoted himself to death, and his troops, animated by his example, performed prodigies of valour. Being directed by general Otto to fall on the flank of the enemy, after some manœuvres he came up with them in the village of Cawdry, charged, and completely defeated them. He then rushed at the head of his brigade against a battery of fourteen pieces of cannon, placed on an eminence behind a deep ravine into which many of the front ranks fell; he passed the ravine with a considerable body of men, and charged the cannon with inconceivable intrepidity and complete success. This event is said to have decided the day, but at the mouth of this battery, the brave and worthy general, after having three horses killed under him in the course of the day, received his death wound; one grape shot entered his chin, fracturing the spine and coming out between the shoulders, and another broke his arm to splinters. His son and aide de camp, the present major Mansel, anxious to save his father's life, darted forwards, but was wounded and taken prisoner. On the 29th the general was buried in a redoubt at the head of the camp. Six generals supported the pall, and the duke of York, the Stadtholder, the hereditary prince of Orange, and all the officers of the army, attended the funeral.

MANSEL, LONGUEVILLE, AND BIGGIN, OF COSGRAVE.

The early descents of Mansell or Mansel from a MS. pedigree in possession of Thos. Philip Maunsell, of Thorp Malsor, esq.; and the later descents from title deeds, parish registers of Cosgrave^m and St. Giles, Northamptonⁿ, and information of the family.

Arms. MANSELL. Argent, three manches Sable. *Crest.* On a chapeau Gules turned up Ermine a falcon rising Proper.

LONGUEVILLE. Gules a fesse dancette Ermine between six cross-crosslets fitchy Argent. *Crest.* On a wreath, a lobster's head Gules, crested and collared dancette Argent.



RAIPHE MANSELL, of co. Bucks, held one fee of Gervase Paganel 14 Hen. 2 (1167), gave lands to Tickford priory, co. Bucks.

WALTER MANSELL, co. Bucks, held one fee of Gervase Paganel 14 Hen. 2 (1167).

SAHER, OF SIER MANSELL, sist. & coh. of Hugh de Asets, of Turvey, co. Bedf. & Midsford.

2. GILBERT MANSELL.
3. ROGER MANSELL.
4. SIMON MANSELL.

5. WILLIAM MANSELL. JOHN MANSELL, esq. handsto Tickford priory, co. Bucks.
6. HUGH MANSELL.

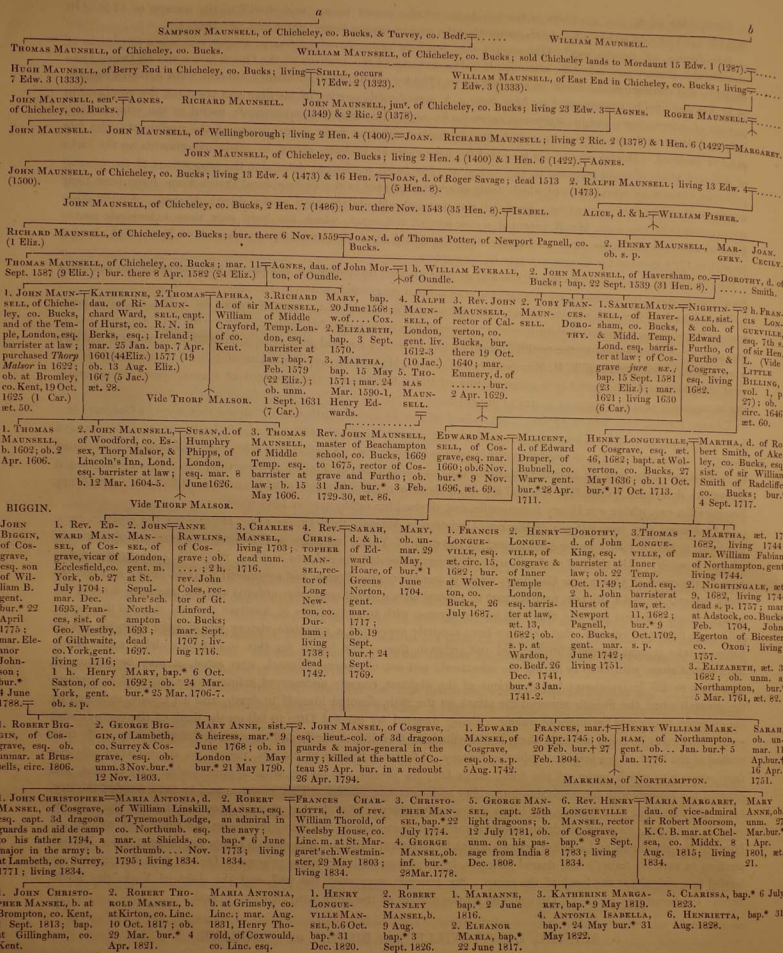
SAMPSON MAUNSELL, of Chicheley, co. Bucks,
JOHN MAUNSELL, of Chicheley, co. JULIANA, widow of ... Tickford priory, co. Bucks.

ROGER MAUNSELL. WILLIAM MAUNSELL,
SIMON MAUNSELL. WILLIAM MAUNSELL. JOHN MAUNSELL,
RICHARD MAUNSELL. sell.

¹ Mansel evidences.

^m Esc. 19 Jac. p. 1, n. 39, & Mansel evidences.

CLELEY HUNDRED.



THE HOSPITAL OF ST. JOHN OF JERUSALEM had the patronage of Cosgrave of the gift of Robert Revel¹, who also gave them the church of Swinford² in Leicestershire. The hospital had also lands here which in 24 Edw. I (1295) were described as six virgates held of earl Ferrars³. In 3 Edw. 3 (1329) the prior of the hospital, in plea to a writ of *quo warranto*, substantiated his claim to view of frank pledge twice a year. Further of his tenants in that vill and in Cosgrave and other places⁴; but in 8 Hen. 4 (1407) the Cosgrave tenants did suit to the prior's seat at Stony Stratford⁵. In 17 Eliz. (1576) a wood and woodland called Barnfields or Brownswood parcel of the dissolved hospital, were granted to John Dudley and John Ayscough in exchange for other lands⁶; and sold by them to Edward Furtho, esq.⁷

SNELSHULL PRIORY in Buckinghamshire had lands in Cosgrave, but by whom given is not recorded. In 18 Eliz.

^a Hatton MSS. Fin. 5 Hen. 3.
pence H. H. H. Hungerford, esq.

* Mon. Ang. 2, p. 546. »
* Aug. 17 Eliz. p. 1, r. 5 and 6.

* Cardigan MSS. Nom. Vill. p. 89. * Q
 6. * Esc. 19 Jac. p. 1, n. 39

* Rot. Cur.

(1575-6) John Marshe, esq. and William Marshe, gent. had a grant of a meadow called Trymnel's mead, and lands called Browneswood green in Cosgrave, late parcel of the priory^a, which they sold to Edward Furtho, esq.^a

COSGRAVE was annexed to the honor of Grafton on its erection in 33 Hen. 8 (1541), but it does not now do suit to any of its courts, and the commissioners of inclosure allotted 2r. 19p. of land to the duke of Grafton in lieu of 8s. *per ann.* payable to the honor.

THE MANOR HOUSE, now usually designated THE PRIORY, stands about half a mile north of the village. For several years it was the residence of lord Lynedoch, and is now in the occupation of admiral sir Robert Moorsom.

COSGRAVE HALL, the seat of major Mansel, was the mansion of the Longuevilles, but has been much altered and improved by the present possessor. In the house are portraits of Mary Anne Biggin, wife of maj.-general Mansel, and her two brothers, by sir Joshua Reynolds; George Biggin, esq. full-length, in the costume of a salt-bearer at the Eton montem; and the ascent of the same gentleman in the balloon from St. George's fields.

THE VILLAGE is situated about two miles from Stony Stratford, at a short distance east of the turnpike road from Northampton, and is partially intersected by the grand junction canal. A part of the green and two houses upon it are in Potterspury parish. In the time of Bridges there were 'about sixty houses⁷.' By the census of 1801 it contained 90 houses and 505 inhabitants; by that of 1811, 113 houses and 511 inhabitants; by that of 1821, 106 houses and 559 inhabitants; and by that of 1831, 121 houses and 624 inhabitants. The annual quota of land tax for this parish is £236. 9s. 3d. at 4s. in the £. The estimated value of real property as assessed to the property tax of 10 *per cent.* for the year ending April 1815 amounted to £3662. The poor rates for the year ending Easter 1832 raised £576. 8s. 6d. at 6s. in the £. The wake follows the feast of St. Peter.

THE ADVOWSON was given to the hospital of St. John of Jerusalem by Robert Revell, and in 5 Hen. 3 (1220) his son Hugh Revell levied a fine of it to Hugh de Monte, prior of the hospital, in confirmation of his father's grant^a. In 5 Edw. 6 (1551) it was included in the grant of the manor to sir Nicholas Throgmorton^a, and accompanied it to William lord Maynard, from whom it lineally descended to Charles 2^d viscount Maynard, who in 1800 sold it to John Christopher Mansel, esq. the present patron.

THE RECTORY is in the deanry of Preston. It was rated in the taxations of 1254 (38 Hen. 3)^b and of 1291 (20 Edw. 1)^c at 10 marks (£6. 13s. 4d.) *per ann.*; and in the ecclesiastical survey of 1535 (26 Hen. 8) at £15. 1s. 8d. *per ann.* deducting 10s. 7d. for synodals and procurations to the archdeacon of Northampton^d. The parliamentary commissioners in 1655 certified it to be a parsonage presentative worth £100 *per ann.* in the patronage of Thomas Tyrrrell, esq. [p. h. v.] and that Mr. John Whalley the incumbent received the profits and supplied the cure. The commissioners for inclosing Cosgrave allotted 202a. 0r. 32p. of land in lieu of the glebe lands, and of all the tithes of Cosgrave tithing, and of certain old inclosures; and the commissioners for inclosing Potterspury allotted 23a. 3r. 22p. in lieu of the tithes of Kenton field; but, by subsequent exchanges with the Grand Junction company and others, the rectory now consists of about 236 acres of land; in addition to which the rector has the tithes of about 93 a. of land in Cosgrave adjoining Potterspury, and belonging to the duke of Grafton. The rectory house is a handsome residence north-east of the church.

RECTORS. *Hugh Revel*, by the prior of the hospital of St. John of Jerusalem.

Richard Giffard, 1220.

William de Westwell, clerk, 11 Apr. 1225.

Richard de Wigornia, clerk, 5 July 1227.

Mast. Robert de Oterington, subdeacon, 1230.

John de Kirkeby, clerk, 15 Oct. 1265, already noticed under Abington.

Thomas de la Lee, 19 Aug. 1267. He was also vicar of Sibertoft.

Henry de Awiters, subdeacon, 17 Mar. 1270.

Mast. Elias,.....

Stephen de Suche, deacon, 25 Nov. 1288.

William de Gyse, 17 Mar. 1291.

Walter,.....

Mast. Thurstan de Hanslap, subdeacon, 11 Apr. 1305.

Richard de Watton, priest, 18 Dec. 1318.

Benedict de Wadeford, priest, 24 Aug. 1322. He was vicar of Cold Ashby from 1310 to 1312.

John de Clifton,..... He exchanged for the rectory of Rushden with

William de Brigham, priest, 7 July 1344.

John Cole of Newport Pagnel, priest, 31 March 1347.

Michael de Sharnbrook, priest, 25 March 1350.

John de Hügeley, clerk, 24 Sept. 1361. He was rector of Tiffeld from 1361 to 1366.

Robert Archer, priest, 21 Oct. 1365.

Richard Knot,.....

John Godynche, 23 Apr. 1374. He exchanged for the rectory of Cranford St. Andrew with

Richard de Kompton, priest, 24 Apr. 1374.

John Rudley, priest, 19 July 1398.

William Yewdale,.....

Henry Drayton, priest, 7 July 1415.

Richard Sleghter, 18 Oct. 1415.

Sir Nicholas Doubrygge, chaplain, 27 July 1416.

William Wattes, priest, 8 Dec. 1421.

Edward Litill, priest, 15 Feb. 1431.

Richard Botyll, priest, 28 Feb. 1443.

Herbert Baxter, priest, 30 Aug. 1444.

Alvered Northfolke, priest, 24 Nov. 1461.

Sir John Newton, priest, 21 July 1470.

Sir Thomas Parker, priest, 25 Nov. 1479. He was rector of Eiton from 1443 to 1484, and of Hardwick 1475.

^a Pat. 30 Jan. 18 Eliz. p. 2.

^b Elw. 6, p. 3.

^c Cotton MSS. Nero D. x. fo. 160.

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⁷ Dr. 1, p. 295.

^a Tax. Eccl. p. 38.

2 M

^b Hatton MSS. Fin. 5 Hen. 3.

^c Augm. Off.

^d Pat. 7 Dec.

Robert Hawley, He was rector of Tiffeld 1487.
Sir Ralph Baydell, priest, 4 Feb. 1524.

Mast. Thomas Russell, A.M. 13 Feb. 1528. He was rector of Tiffeld 1526, Dingley 1530, and Holcot from 1530 to 1552.

Thomas Tilde, rector of Siresham, presented by the king, and instituted 8 Nov. 1549.

Christopher Emerson, rector of Furtho, was inst. 11 Dec. 1563, on the presentation of sir Robert [Nicholas] Throgmorton. He retained both benefices till his death, and was buried here 5 Jan. 1592-3*, when he was succeeded by

William Bradshaw, B.D. who died in 1601*, and

John Whalley, B.D. was presented by sir Arthur Throgmorton, and accounted for the first fruits 4 Feb. 1601-2*. He died in 1647 at the advanced age of ninety-two years*, but resigned this benefice in favour of his son

John Whalley, A.M. who was inst. 20 Apr. 1638 on the presentation of the king, by wardship of Francis lord Dacre. He was buried here 26 Mar. 1659-60, and was succeeded by

*Henry Silles**, who was buried here 10 Nov. 1663*, when

George Welsted was presented by William lord Maynard, and inst. 8 Mar. 1663-4. He was bred a physician, and afterwards took holy orders, and is transmitted to posterity as an eminent physician and an able divine by a latin inscription in prose, and under it an epigram of eight lines said to have been "composed by the rev. William Carpenter, a late worthy rector of Calverton in Buckinghamshire*." He was buried here 12 Sept. 1667*, and

John Nayler was inst. 29 Feb. following, on the presentation of lord Maynard. He was buried here 6 June 1690*, and was succeeded by

Walrond Cowley, who survived only a year*,

John Withman, of Christ coll. Camb. A.B. being inst. 9 Sept. 1691, on the presentation of William lord Maynard. He was buried here 6 Jan. 1698-9*, when

John Mansell, of Clare hall, Camb. L.L.B. rector of Furtho, was presented by the same patron, and inst. 6 Feb. following. He published an assize sermon, preached at Northampton, Mar. 1693, on Ps. 82, v. 1; and a visitation sermon preached at Northampton, Oct. 1694, on 1 Tim. 1, v. 16, 1695, 4to. He was buried here 3 Feb. 1729-30, at the advanced age of 86 years*, and

William Thompson, of Chr. ch. coll. Oxf. A.M. was inst. on the 9th of the same month, on the presentation of John Battison, gent. (p. h. v.) He was buried here 2 Apr. 1752*, and

Palter Forester, of Peter house, Camb. A.M. 1744, D.D. 1757, was presented by Charles lord Maynard, and inst. 23 July 1752. Besides the preferment enumerated in his epitaph, he had at various times the rectories of Knapwell in Cambridgeshire, and of Gayhurst and Stoke Goldington in Buckinghamshire, the prebends of Caddington major in Lincoln, and of Stratford in Salisbury cathedrals, and the lectureship of St. Mary's chapel, Park street, near Grosvenor square. The doctor's library was sold to B. White, who published a catalogue of it in 1779. He was buried here 4 Aug. 1778*, and

Charles Walker, of Magdalen coll. Oxf. A.M. was presented by the trustees of viscount Maynard, deceased, and inst. 11 Oct. following. He held also the rectory of Shillingford in Berkshire. He died at Bath, Nov. 1809, and

Henry Longueville Mansel, of Trin. coll. Camb. A.M. was inst. 7 Feb. 1810, on the presentation of his brother John Christopher Mansel, esq.

THE REGISTERS in the time of Bridges commenced in 1558†; but the earliest entry now extant is in 1691.

THE CHURCH, dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul, stands at the west end of the village, and consists of a tower containing five bells, nave, north aisle, and chancel. At the west end of the tower is a good Perpendicular window, but all the other windows have been despoiled of their tracery. At the east end of the chancel are detached portions of a string course with the small nail-head between two hatched mouldings. The tower is 12 ft. 5 in. long, by 11 ft. wide; the nave 54 ft. 2 in. long, by 18 ft. 6 in. wide; the aisle 51 ft. 6 in. long, by 12 ft. 9 in. wide; and the chancel 25 ft. 5 in. long, by 15 ft. 8 in. wide. The interior was substantially repaired and the ceiling coxed by Dr. Forester in 1774. The whole is well paved and pewed. There is a north gallery, and another across the west end, in which is a small organ. The nave is divided from the north aisle by five arches on clustered pillars with plain bell capitals, and connected by a running hatched archivolt moulding. At the west end of the aisle is an octagonal font. The chancel is entered under an open Pointed arch. The upper quatrefoil of the east window is filled with old quarterings, some reversed, and beneath are *Moorsom* with crest, and *Mansel* impaling *Linskill*.

MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS.

NAVE. I. In a small wooden frame against the east wall of the nave:

Here lies the Body of Henry Longueville, late of this Parish, Esq. Son and Heir of Francis Longueville, Esq. one of the Sons of St Henry Longueville, of Wolverton, which Francis married one of the two daughters of Edward Fortho, of Fortho, Esq. and coheirs of Edward his Son by whom he had this Son only. Ob^d Oct 11, 1713.

II. On the south wall is a neat marble tablet. On a

lozenge, arms: Az. three cross crosslets fitchée between two bendlets O. *Knatchbull*.

To the Memory of
 Harriet Knatchbull, Eldest Daughter of
 The Rev^d WADHAM KNATCHBULL, L.L.D. Prebendary of
 DURHAM,
 and Son of Sir EDWARD KNATCHBULL, of KENT, Bart.

The accomplishments of this young Lady were
 So truly amiable, that her Relations & Acquaintance
 will ever remember her Early Departure
 with the greatest Concern.
 She died in the 19th year of her Age,
 Oct^r 27th 1767.

This Monument was erected by the
 order of Her disconsolate Mother.

* Par. Reg.

† Br. 1, p. 287.

III. On the north wall a lozenge tablet of white marble surmounted by *arms*: Ar. fretty Az. the interlacings each charged with a Bezan, on a canton G. a leopard's head erased at the neck O. *Lowndes*.

BENEATH
are deposited
the Remains of
MARY,
youngest Daughter of
RICHARD LOWNDES, Esq.
(of *Windsor*, Bucks),
Obit 3d June 1812,
Æt. 76.

On slabs: 1. ROBERT THOROLD MANSELL,
DIED MARCH 27th 1821,
AGED 4 AND $\frac{1}{2}$ YEARS.

2. In Memory of Mary Mansell, ye Daughter of John Mansell, Gent. and Anne his wife, she departed this life on ye 21 st day of March in ye Year of our Lord 1706, Aged 13 Years and six Months.	In Memory of Mary Mansell, the Daughter of Edward Mansell, Gent. and Millicent his Wife. She departed this life on ye 29 day of May in ye Year of our Lord 1704, Aged 22 Years and about eight months.
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In Memory of
Mrs Millicent, wife to Mr.
Edward Mansell, Gent. she
was buried on April
the 28th Anno
Dni. 1711.

3. In Memory of
Edward Mansell, Gent.
who departed this Life,
6th of November
1696,
AGED 69.

VIII. Against the south wall is a handsome marble monument. On a base with an inscription is raised an inscribed tablet, surmounted by a wreathed pediment with *arms*: Ar. a chevron Vt. between three bugle horns S. stringed G. *Forester*, impaling, Az. on a chief indented O. three mullets pierced G. *Moore*. Crest. On a wreath, a buck trippant Pp.

SACRED to the Memory of
The Revd. and Worshipful
PULTER FORESTER, D.D.
Rector of Cosgrave and
Passenham, Justice of Peace
for this COUNTY,
Arch-deacon of BUCKS,
Chancellor of the Diocese of
LINCOLN, and Chaplain in
Ordinary to the KING;
the last person in whom were
united the Names of the two
Families of Broadfield and
Cottered in the COUNTY of
HERTFORD. He was possessed of
every amiable *Virtue* of the
social and *Christian Life*.
The established Church (whose
Temples, especially This and
others near him, he was ever
solicitous to improve and adorn)
lost in him a constant and steady
Friend; his two *Parishes* an able

CHANCEL. IV. On a small brass plate in the north wall:

GULIELMI BRADSHAW CONJUX HIC BARBARA, CUJUS
PULCHRA FUIT PIETAS, NOBILE STEMMA, JACET.
ORBIT 25th SEPTEMBRIS ÆTATIS SUE 21, 1595.

V. On a gilt board within a black frame against the south wall:

M. S.
DEPOSITUM GEORGI WELSTED HUIUS ECCLESIE
DE COVESGRAVE PASTORIS FIDELISSIMI QUI CADU-
-CUM CORPUS IMMORTALI POSTHARENS ANIMAE
(FELIX TRANSFUGA) A MEDICIS DEFEUIT AD THEO-
-LOGOS ET NON SUI MODO SED TOTI VICINIE INDIES
CHARIOR, PER TRIENNII SINGULARI PRUDENTIA
NEC MINORI PIETATE PREDICAVIT EVANGELIUM
DONEC INDEFESSO LABORE FATISCENTEM MAGNUS
ANIMABUM EPISCOPUS ÆTERNA DONAVIT REQUIE
8 ID. SEPT. Aº VERBI INCARNATI 1667.

Scire, Vintor, aves hac quis mandaverit ossa,
Hac quis reliquias valle jacere suas?
Clericus & Medicus, duo maxima munera cœli,
Pulpita cui Morbum, cui dedit Ara necem.
Proh! duplici damno nactamur, quippe cadente
Presbytero ipse animas sic quoq' vulnus habent;
Olim Corporibus metuenda hoc crimine fati
Atropos humanum lesit utrinq' genus.

Primogeniti Pietas Posuit.

VI. On a small marble tablet against the north wall:
The Revd. RICHARD WADSWORTH, M.A.

Rector of Little Wolston,
Died March 23^d 1781,
Aged 62.

His Sisters erected this
Monument to his
Memory.

VII. On a neat rectangular tablet of white marble:

TO THE MEMORY OF
ELEANOR,

WIFE OF
VICE ADMIRAL SIR ROBERT MOORSOM, K.C.B.
WHO DIED APRIL 12th 1828,
IN HER 63^d YEAR.

and vigilant Pastor;
his Country a merciful, active,
and upright Magistrate;
his acquaintance a generous,
hospitable, and sincere Friend;
The Poor a munificent
Benefactor;
and his *Wife* a tender
and indulgent *Husband*.
He supported a long and painful
Sickness with true *Christian*
fortitude; founded on a perfect
Submission to the Will of God;
and died at Cosgrave July the 20th,
1778, aged 57 years.
He married MARY, Daughter of
the Honourable and Revd
HENRY MOORE, D.D. second son
of HENRY Earl of Drogheda.
She had the Regret to survive
her truly affectionate *Husband*,
and caused this Monument
to be erected.

ALSO
IN MEMORY OF
MARY, HIS WIFE
WHO DIED MARCH XXIV,
MDCCXCIX.

4. On a brass plate:
HERE LYETH CHRISTOPHER EMERSON, PARSON
OF FORTHW AND COVESGRAVE, BEINGE OF
THE AGE OF 68 YEARES AND DEPARTED THIS
WORLD THE 5 DAYE OF JANUARIE 1592.

5. On a brass plate:
HERE LYETH THE BODY OF SUSANNA
WHALLEY, THE RELICT OF JOHN WHALLEY,
B. IN D. AND MINISTER OF THIS PARISH,
WHO HAD ISSUE BY HIM 3 SONES & 2
DAUGHTERS, VIZ. JOHN, LATE MINISTER
OF THIS CHURCH, ARTHURE AND THOMAS,
ANNE & KATHERINE. SHE WAS A LOVING
WIFE & A MOST INDULGENT MOTHER,
WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE (IN THE 74TH
YEARE OF HER AGE) THE 19TH OF APRIL
1661.

6. JOHN WHALLEY, JUNIOR,
BURIED JANUARY THE 31,
1670,
AGED 27 YEARES.

7. M. S.
JOHAN. MANSELL, HUIJUS ECCLESIE
ET FORTHW RECTORIS, OBIT
DIE 31 JAN. ANNO Dni
1729, ET ATIS
SUE 86.

8. To the Memory of
The Revd WILL. THOMSON, M.A.
the worthy Rector of
this Parish 23 years,
died *March* the 26th 1752,
AGED 64.

9. SOPHIA CHILTON,
Wife of
The Revd R. C. CHILTON,
Vicar of MENDESHAM,
Suffolk,
And Daughter of
The Revd C. WALKER,

Rector of this Parish,
Died June 1, 1806,
Aged 28 Years.

10. On a small brass plate:
THOMAS SCARTH, Esq
DIED
AUGUST 27TH
1824,
Aged 88 Years.

Bridges records the two following epitaphs for incumbents, now removed:

a 'At the entrance into the chancel, upon a brass plate on an ordinary stone, under a pew is the following inscription:

HERE LYETH BURIED MR. WILLIAM BRADSHAW, BACHELOR OF DIVINITY, A MOST DILIGENT AND FAITHFUL PREACHER OF GOD'S WORD, AND LATE PARSON OF COVESGRAVE; WHO DEPARTED THIS MORTAL LIFE THE 13th of NOVEMBER

ANNO DOM. 1601.

'Upon a brass plate on a common stone in the midst of the chancel, near the rails of the communion table in capitals:

H. S. E.
CHRISTIANÆ RESURRECTIONIS AURORAM
EXPECTANS
DIGNISSIMUS VIR JOHANNES WHALLEY A. M. ET HUIUS ECCLESIE DE COSGRAVE PROPE XX ANNOS FIDELIS RECTOR; HIC IN EJUSDEM LOCI COMMODO DNAS DOMOS CONJUNCTIM EDIFICAVIT; DENIQUE PIETATE, CANDORE, CHARITATE CLARUS ET CELO MATUREUS, CARNIS EXUVIAS POSUIT 24o MARTII Aº SALUTIS 1659, ET ATIS SUE 49.
MEMORIA PIÆ ETÆRNA.

The church-yard connects with the parsonage, and is kept in a state of very commendable neatness.

BENEFACTIONS. (Vide p. 116). This charity, in reference to which Bridges says, 'a John Whalley, rector of this parish, who died in 1659, and whose descendants have here an estate, built two houses which he gave to the town, one as a dwelling for a poor widow, and the other for a town servant,' appears to be lost: there are four cottages in Cosgrave, and an estate at Hartwell left by this John Whalley to put out apprentices from Stony Stratford, of which charity the rector of Cosgrave is a trustee, but from this the poor of Cosgrave have no benefit.

ROMAN COINS. During the excavations for the Grand Junction canal numerous Roman coins were found in fine preservation on the lower part of major Mansel's lawn; amongst others were silver medallions of Magnus Maximus, Constantine Ist, and Valentinian II^d, denarii of Valens, Julian and Gratian, and three brass of Tacitus, Diocletian, Constantine, and Magnentius, with various reverses. From its vicinity to the Watling-street it was not improbably the site of a Roman villa.

OLD STRATFORD.

on the presumption of superior antiquity is so called in contradistinction to Stony Stratford, a market town in Buckinghamshire from which it is separated by the river Ouse, over which is a bridge, to which may be applied as pertinently as to their original appropriation the well known lines of Cowper,

Hark! 'tis the twanging horn o'er yonder bridge,
That with its wearisome but needful length
Bestrides the wintry flood.

Thomas Pygot, Esq. King's sergeant at law, by will 25 Feb. 11 Hen. 8. (1519-20) devised his inn at Stony Stratford called the Cock, to feoffees, "for evermore to the sustentation and maintenance of the brigg of Stony Stratford." This charity was subsequently blended by the trustees with a benefaction from Mr. John Mashe of a messuage and certain lands for the reparation and amendment of the causeways and highways of Stony Stratford. In 41 Geo. 3 (1801) an act passed for paving, lighting, and otherwise improving that town, and under a power in this act, the trustees sold the above charity lands and purchased an estate at Loughton in Buckinghamshire to the same uses, the rents of which have been since expended in and towards the repairs of the said bridges causeways and highways indiscriminately, without reference to the proportion of such rents exclusively applicable to the repairs of the bridge, and of the causeways and highways respectively. Subject to the proportion of these charitable funds applicable to this purpose, the inhabitants of the counties of Northampton and Buckingham are liable in equal proportions to repair the bridge; and in consequence of the inadequacy of the means, the pecuniary burden to the parties, and the narrow decayed and dangerous state of the bridge, an act of parliament was obtained last session (July 1834) empowering the justices of the peace for the counties of Buckingham and Northampton, to remove the present bridge "called Old Stratford bridge," and on or near its site to erect a wider and more commodious one. The act authorises them to raise the necessary sums of money on the credit of the county rates of the said counties equally, and of certain tolls to be established for twenty-one years; and in order to put an end to any questions which may hereafter arise as to the proportionate part of the rent of the estate at Loughton, applicable to the repair of the bridge, and to extinguish the future liability of the trustees of the Stony Stratford bridge and street charity, it is enacted that they shall within twelve calendar months from the passing of the act pay the sum of £735 to the treasurer to be appointed by virtue of this act, or to such person as the justices shall authorise to receive the same, and after payment of such sum the trustees "shall be discharged from all future and further liability to repair the bridge and so much of the causeway as shall lie within one hundred yards from the end of the intended bridge next Stony Stratford;" and until the said sum shall be raised and paid, the trustees shall yearly pay the proportion of the charity funds lawfully applicable to the repair of the said bridge, to the respective treasurers of the counties of Buckingham and Northampton in equal moieties.

Stratford is doubtless a modern corruption of *Street-ford*, allusive to the ancient Watling street on which it stands, and the ford through the Ouse from Passenham meadow, which, though long since abandoned, is traditionally known to have gone in a transverse direction immediately south-east of the late Saracen's head inn, now converted into the Belvidere academy. Though the appellation of *Old Stratford* implies the comparatively modern origin of the other Stratford which has now eclipsed it, yet the earliest recorded notice of it is in 25 Edw. 1 (1296) where it is associated with Furtho and the small fees of Moreton on the death of Edmond earl of Lancaster*; and it first occurs as *Old Stratford* in 15 Hen. 7 (1499) on the decease of Margaret, widow of Thomas Furtho, esq. who held a close of pasture in Old Stratford of the marquis of Dorset^b.

This hamlet stands on both sides of the Watling street or Chester road, and is in four different parishes. It consists of 39 houses, twenty-seven in Cosgrave parish, nine in Denshanger in Passenham parish, two in Furtho, and one in Potterspury, and contributes accordingly to the poor rates, and is included in the population returns of those parishes.

HERMITAGE and CHAPEL. The chapel of the hospital of St. John upon the causeway leading to the bridge at Stony Stratford mentioned by bishop Tanner, and which he conjectures to have been on the Northamptonshire side of the river^c, may with little hesitation be identified with the hermitage and free chapel in Old Stratford, of the site of which, with the lands thereto belonging, Edward Furtho, esq. died seised in 18 Jac. (1620) having lately purchased them of George Ferne, gent.^d

SUPPOSED ROMAN STATION. Bridges, or rather his editor Whalley, observes, "It was here that 'the *Lactorodum* or *Lactorodum* of Antoninus's itinerary was probably placed, which is fixed by *Camden* on the other side of the river at *Stony Stratford*." The present name signifying the same with *Lactorodum*, its situation on a military way, and the proportionable distance from the other stations marked down in the itinerary, are circumstances which are added by *Camden* in favour of his conjecture; and such as seem convincing enough to prove that this station was seated either

* Ecc. 25 Edw. 1, n. 51.

^b Ecc. 15 Hen. 7, n. 49.

^c Tanner's Notit. p. 31.

^d Ecc. 19 Jac. p. 1, n. 39.

^e Br. 1, p. 30f. * Morton's Nat. Hist. of Northampt. p. 504.

^f Ibid. * Britan. p. 522.

there, or in a place of a resembling name in the neighbourhood. But as *Old Stratford* implies antiquity in its name, and there have been some few *Roman* coins cast up in the fields adjoining, none of which, nor any other *Roman* antiquity, were ever known to have been found near the other *Stratford*, this in the opinion of later critics seems most likely to have been the *Roman* station. To which we must add, that what is now called *Old Stratford*, appears to have had anciently the name of *Stone Stretford*, which *Camden* tells us is a word of the same signification with *Lactodorum*. Thus in the sixth year of *Edward III.* *Henry de Kersebrook* released to *Henry* earl of *Lancaster* the manor of *Passenham* with its members *Deneshanger*, *Pouxeley*, and *Stone Stretford*.*

Without anticipating the arguments on which the appropriation of *Lactodorum* to *Towcester* will be founded, it may be sufficient to observe, that the claim of both *Stratfords* rests solely on the assumed etymological affinity between the *Roman* and modern names, and the circumstance of 'some few *Roman* coins cast up in the fields adjoining;' for, so far from their being a 'proportional distance from the other stations,' they do not harmonise with any of the readings.

The route is marked in the second, sixth, and eighth iters of *Antoninus*, and the first of *Richard of Cirencester*. In some the distance from *Benaventa* [Burnt walls near *Daventry*†] to *Lactodorum* is made *xii* miles, and thence to *Magiovento* *xvi* miles, and in others the distances between these stations are transposed, but the eighth iter, whilst it omits the intermediate station of *Lactodorum* confirms the total number of *xxviii* miles, however the items may be distributed. Now *Old Stratford* is *xx* miles from *Benaventa*, which will not accord with either numerals, and is therefore fatal to its pretensions. The *xxviii* miles terminate at another place of the same generic name—*Fenny Auld field*, or old field, about a quarter of a mile south of that village.

EASTON NESTON

is variously written in domesday, *Estanestone*, *Etenestone*, *Aldestanestone*, and *Adistanestone*, and in later records *Estneston*, and *Easton Neston*, or *Easton Neston*. The etymology is obscure. *Easton* is a relative without an apparent or significant correlative, and *Neston* is equally inexplicable unless *Ness* which signifies a point of land projecting into the sea or water, may be allusive to this lordship running into an angle of the river *Tove* where the three parishes of *Easton*, *Stoke*, and *Paulerspury* join.

Easton parish, including *Hulcote* and *Sewardley*, is all old inclosure, and contains about 1705 acres, the whole of which except a few acres of glebe land is the property of *George-William-Richard* 5th earl of *Pomfret*, a minor.

It is bounded on the north by *Tiffield* in *Towcester* hundred; east by *Shutlanger* in *Stoke Bruere* parish; south by the river *Tove* which divides it on the south-east from *Heathencote* in *Paulerspury* parish, and on the south-west from *Towcester*, which forms its boundary also on the west.

The soil varies, but is principally a heavy loam on a substratum of clay, with some portions of lime stone and gravel. About two thirds is in permanent pasture.

The watermill noticed in domesday occurs as late as the seventeenth century, but has been destroyed many years.

MANORIAL HISTORY. *Easton Neston*, in the domesday survey, was compounded of three different fees, and subdivided into five mesne estates, three held of the earl of *Moreton*, one of *Gunfrid de Cioches*, and one of *Winemar*.

MORETON FEE †. **HONOR OF BERKHAMPTSTED ‡.** The principal estate of the earl of *Moreton* in "*Aldenestone*" was the *Saxon* freehold of *Sivard*§, which will be treated of under *SEWARDLEY*.

Another portion of "*Estanestone*," valued both previously to and by the domesday survey at 30s. yearly, was held under the earl of *Moreton* by *William*, and contained one hide and two virgates and a half. The arable land was six carucates; of which one and a half was in demesne with two servants; one and a half in the occupation of six villeins; and the remaining three waste or unaccounted for. There was a mill worth 10s. yearly; three acres of meadow; and a wood three furlongs and a half long, and two and a half wide¶.

Alfred held the third and smallest estate of the earl of *Moreton* in "*Etenestone*." The *Saxon* valuation was only 4s. and the domesday 6s. yearly. It contained one virgate and the fifth part of a virgate. The arable land was one carucate, and there were three acres of meadow||.

CHOKES FEE §. *Bondi* the *Saxon* lord of a small freehold in "*Adestanestone*" valued at 12s. yearly, was permitted to hold it after the *Norman* conquest under *Gunfrid de Cioches* or *Chokes*. It contained three virgates and a quarter. The arable land was two carucates, one in demesne, and the other in occupation of six villeins. There were three acres of meadow, and part of a mill worth 4s. yearly. The wood five furlongs square was held by two lords&.

* *Rt. I.* p. 304. 'Rot. Claus. anno G. Edw. III. b. 14.'

† *Domesd.* fo. 224.

‡ *Ibid.* fo. 223b.

§ *Ibid.* fo. 227b.

* *Vide DAVENTRY*, vol. I, p. 340.

† *Vide HUGHBROOK*, vol. I, p. 130.

‡ *Vide BLAKESLEY*, p. 21.

§ *Vide GAYTON*.



EASTON HOUSE.
Designed by George S. East of Boston.

Printed by J. G. Thompson.

WINEMAR FEE^a. *Abric* and *Seward* in the time of Edward the confessor had a small estate in Cleley hundred, then rated at 10s. yearly, but doubled in value at the domesday survey when it was held by *Mauful* under Winemar. It contained two virgates and a half. The arable land was one carucate, one half in demesne, and the other in possession of six villeins^b. Though the locality of this entry is omitted, it is satisfactorily fixed at Easton by subsequent records.

In the hydariam of Hen. 2, one hide and a half and a small virgate in Esteneston were in the tenure of *Richard de le Estre* of the fee of Berkhamptsted, and eight small virgates in the hands of *Godfrey* and *Aldred*, of the fee of *William Mauduit*^c. In the Testa de Nevill about 18 Hen. 3 (1233) one fee in Easton Neston and Snoscomb of the fee of *William de "Listrid"* (le Estre) paid scutage as parcel of the honor of Berkhamptsted^d. On the death of Edmond earl of Cornwall in 28 Edw. 1 (1300) Easton Neston with Hulcote was included in the honor of Berkhamptsted^e; and they still owe suit to the court of that honor, held at Blakesley.

The paramoury of the *Winemar* fee cannot be traced beyond the above notice in the hydariam; and the seignorial rights incident to the *Chokes* fee do not occur till 31 Hen. 3 (1247) when, on an inquisition of the knight's fees late belonging to Robert advocate of Betun lord of this honor, the jurors presented that he had the service of Gilbert de Preston† for one fee in Easton Neston and West Haddon P; and as late as 19 Hen. 7 (1503) sir William Hartwell†, successor of the Prestons, was found to hold this fee^f.

MANOR. On levying the aid for marrying Maud daughter of Henry II. to Henry duke of Saxony in the 14th of that reign (1167), *Richard del Estre* certified his barony to consist of four fees of the small fees of the earl of Moreton, three of which rendered to the king the service of two of the larger ones. Three of his fees were of the barony of Montacute in Somersetshire, and the fourth of the honor of Berkhamptsted in Northamptonshire; thus corroborating the entry in the hydariam^g. In 10 Ric. (1198) *Richard del Estre*, probably his son, paid £15 for his relief, for three fees of the honor of Moreton^h; and in 9 Hen. 3 (1224) *William de Estre* did homage for the lands of *Richard* his fatherⁱ.

William de Braden† and Joan his wife in 56 Hen. 3 (1271) levied a fine of the manor of Esteneston to Geoffrey de Turville in fee, rendering one pound of cumin yearly^j. In the book of knight's fees 24 Edw. 1 (1295) *William de Braden*, grandson of the former William, answered to the earl of Cornwall for the service of two parts of a fee here^k. On *Sunday* in the feast of St. Philip and St. James 28 Edw. 1 (May 1300) *Geoffrey* son and heir of sir William Braden, for certain causes not specified, enfeoffed lady Margaret widow of sir Nicholas de Criol, in his manor and advowson of Esteneston, on condition that she re-enfeoffed him and Katherine his wife, and levied a fine before the feast of St. Peter ad vincula following (1 Aug.)^l; this she failed to do, but, in the feast of St. Agatha the virgin 29 Edw. 1 (Feb. 1300-1) under the designation of *Margaret de Kyriel*, she, by deed sealed with her arms, a chevron and canton with a label of three points, and circumscribed "Sigillum Margerie de Crio." remised and released the manor and advowson to *Geoffrey de Braden* and Katherine his wife, to hold to Katherine in fee tail, remainder to Geoffrey in fee^m; who in 9 Edw. 2 (1315) was lord of Easton Nestonⁿ.

It was found, by inquisition *ad g. d.* in 2 Edw. 3 (1328) that it would not be to the damage of the king, if *William de St. John*§ had licence to enfeoff the prioress of *Sewardley* in his manor of Est Neston, held of queen Isabella of the honor of Berkhamptsted by service of the fourth of a fee, and suit every three weeks at the court at Berkhamptsted, in exchange for six messuages and four virgates of land at Ashby Canons^o; and the same year the prioress gave 40s. for licence to acquire it of him^p. The following year, in a plea of the crown against the prioress, the jurors presented that she held of the king as of the honor of Berkhamptsted, a moiety of the manor of Easton and Hulcote of the feoffment of William de St. John, worth with the other moiety £20 yearly, but they knew not by what warrant; to which she replied, that she claimed nothing at present in the said moiety except only that she held it at the will of the said William, who was also in court, and acknowledged her statement^q. On levying the scutage of 40s. a fee for knighting the king's eldest son in 20 Edw. 3 (1346) the prioress paid 20s. for half a fee in Est Neston and Hulcote of the fee of Berkhamptsted^r; but in 43 Edw. 3 (1369)

Sir Henry Green, of GREENS NORTON ||, died seised of the manor of Esteneston with the advowson of *Sewardley* priory, held of the earl of Cornwall, leaving Thomas Green, afterwards knighted, his son and heir aged twenty-five years^d; in whose descendants it remained till 14 Hen. 7 (1499) when *Matilda* widow of sir Thomas Green, and her son sir Thomas Green, levied a fine and suffered a recovery of it to

Richard Empson, esq.^e the unpopular associate of sir Edmund Dudley in ministering to the insatiable avarice of their royal master. Empson was of mean original, being the son of a sieve-maker at Towcester, where he was born and educated. The uncertain and diversified orthography in the personal and local nomenclature of early, and even comparatively modern times, has been a frequent subject of observation; but it is a peculiarity in this family, that the name is uniformly written *Empson* in all deeds and conveyances^f, and as invariably *Empson* in all printed authorities. Peter Empson, the father of sir Richard, notwithstanding his manual occupation must have been a man of some local consequence, as his name is of constant recurrence as feeoffee in, or witness to, deeds relating to Towcester and the neighbourhood from the 24th of Henry VI. to the 11th of Edward IV.^g He was sometimes described of Paveslisbury or Westbury; but in 27 Hen. 6 (1449) Simon Ruff of Westbury and Eleanor his wife demised to him for one hundred and ten years, a cottage in "Tovecester" containing in length along "Myllclane" 90ft. and in

^a Domesd. fo. 226b.

^b Cotton. MSS. Vesp. E. xxiij. fo. 96.

^c Test. Nev. fo. 131.

^d Esc. 28 Edw. 1, n. 44.

^e Esc. 31 Hen. 3, n. 44.

^f Esc. 19 Hen. 7, n. 76.

^g Lib. Nig. p. 98.

^h Mad. Exch. 1, p. 316.

ⁱ Mag. Rot. Dors. & Som. 10 Ric. r. 15. a. 2.

^j MSS. "Fin. 9 Hen. 3, m. 7.

^k Knightley evidences & Hutton MSS. "Fin. 56 Hen. 3."

^l Cardigan MSS. Nom. Vill. p. 69.

^m Mado's Form. p. 90.

ⁿ Hutton deeds.

^o Cardigan MSS. Nom. Vill. p. 9.

^p Esc. 2 Edw. 3, p. 2, n. 83.

^q Orig. 2 Edw. 3, p. 22.

^r Hutton MSS. No. 38, p. 199.

^s Esc. 43 Edw. 3, n. 42.

^t Hutton MSS. "Fin. Hill. 14 Hen. 7."

^u Female evidences.

^v Female evidences.

^w Vide CONGRATE, p. 129.

^x Vide PRESTON DEANRY.

^y Vide BRADEN, p. 36.

^z Vide PLUMPTON, p. 96.

^{aa} Vide

BOUGHTON, vol. 1, p. 32.

breadth along "Parkelane" 20 ft.±, which probably became his future residence and the birth-place of his son. He died at Towerstein in 13 Edw. 4 (1473) and administration of his goods was granted to his executors by the official of the archdeacon of Northampton ±. How his son was primarily led into the paths of law, and by what pecuniary means he was enabled to prosecute his studies, it would now be vain to inquire; but the purchase of Bacon's lands in East Neston, Hulcote, and Shulanger in 16 Edw. 4 (1476) ± may be presumed to have been effected with the first fruits of his professional success.

Sir Reginald Bray, one of the principal favorites of Hen. VII., had considerable estates in this county*. On his purchase of Edgote in 7 Hen. 7 (1492)†, Empson was one of his trustees or feoffees, which implies a certain degree of intimacy between the parties, and it is not improbable therefore that he was originally introduced to the king by sir Reginald, whom he afterwards succeeded in the chancellorship of the duchy of Lancaster. Cardinal Morton and Bray reluctantly yielded to, and endeavoured to check the ruling passion of their sovereign; Empson and Dudley not merely acquiesced in but fostered his mercenary and tyrannical inclinations. Henry found in them the willing and eager instruments of regal rapacity, and by the abuse of their legal knowledge and authority during the last ten years of his reign, they contrived to fill his coffers under the colour of law though with an utter disregard of equity or justice. They commenced their extortionate career by instituting harassing and vexatious prosecutions for offences against antiquated and obsolete penal statutes, in which they listened to no defence or mitigating circumstance, but unrelentingly enforced the letter of the law in violation of its spirit. The accused individual was indicted in due form, and when the bill was found he was immediately committed, but instead of proceeding to trial they suffered him to languish in prison, till by various artificial devices and threats they induced him to pay a heavy ransom for his liberty, which they hypocritically construed into a favour or composition; as indeed it was in a certain sense, for a trial inevitably led to conviction by a packed jury. Hosts of spies and delators, as they were termed, were employed by them throughout the kingdom in hunting up supposed delinquents; and as they advanced in their course they became emboldened to dispense with the customary process of indictment and trial by jury, and issued precepts to arrest their victims, whom they summoned before themselves and their minions at their private houses, in a court of commission, and fined them after a summary examination, assuming to themselves the cognisance both of pleas of the crown and civil controversies to the exclusion of the proper courts of judicature. The onerous burdens incident to the feudal tenures had in the lapse of time been considerably relaxed, but these twins in illegal iniquity revived them and added to their original severity, not permitting the royal wards, after they had attained majority, to have livery of their lands without paying excessive and unprecedented fines; and even subjected additional lands to tenure *in capite* by false inquisitions, refusing to admit the proprietors to traverse those false offices according to law. In cases of outlawry for non-appearance in personal actions, which was ordinarily remitted for a moderate fine though the strict penalty was forfeiture of goods, they would not allow an offender to purchase his charter of pardon unless on payment of an intolerable sum, and if he hesitated they arbitrarily seized the half of his lands and rents for two years.

It is not surprising that an universal clamour was raised throughout the nation not only against Empson and Dudley but against the king, who sanctioned their proceedings and so enriched himself by the spoils of his oppressed subjects that at his death he is said to have been in possession of £1,800,000 in ready money, an amount almost incredible in those days when the scarcity of money is taken into consideration. Henry towards the close of his existence affected to relent, and for the ease of his conscience issued a proclamation, and inserted a clause in his will directing restitution, but his sincerity was not evinced by the dismissal or punishment of the instruments of his oppression who had in fact become masters of the kingdom; every one trembled before them; and no one durst oppose their measures even on points subversive of the constitution. Upheld by their royal master, the indignant voice of the public was unheeded, but his death sealed their doom. One of the first and most popular acts of his successor was to consign them to the Tower, and to publish a proclamation encouraging his subjects to prefer their complaints and promising redress. Many of the inferior agents were tried, and condemned to ignominious punishments, and Empson and Dudley were summoned before the council and the various accusations against them reduced to specific heads. Empson made a very artful and ingenious defence. He complained that he was exposed by the king to the malice of his enemies for no other crime than obeying his father's commands. He reasoned with great spirit on the injustice of prosecuting him for enforcing those statutes which the legislature had enacted, and which as they had never been repealed remained in full force and vigour. Flagitious and oppressive as their conduct had been, none of the charges amounted to a capital offence, and the prosecution would have unavoidably implicated the memory of the late king. They were therefore remanded; and, popular indignation demanding their lives, a charge of high treason was fabricated against them. They had, according to certain witnesses, engaged a body of their partisans during Henry's last illness to be armed and in readiness to attend them at a moment's notice; and on this problematical statement was based the improbable and absurd inference, that they contemplated securing the person of the young monarch for the purpose of seizing the reins of government, and juries were found credulous or servile enough to convict them of a conspiracy against the state. Dudley was tried at the Guildhall in London on the 18th of July 1509 (1 Hen. 8) and Empson was sent down to the castle of Northampton where he was tried on the 3d of October, before sir Robert Brudenell, sir John Fisher, and other justices, and then re-conveyed to the Tower.

On the meeting of parliament in January following a bill of attainder was passed against them for a crime of which they were innocent, and new statutes enacted for the prevention and reparation of their real offences. All actions for the king upon any penal statute were limited to be brought within three years of the offence committed^b. "Forasmuch as divers of the king's subjects lately have been sore hurt, troubled, and some disinherited by excheutors and commissioners, causing untrue offices to be found, and sometimes returning into the courts of record offices and

* Former evidences.

† Act of Parl. 1 Hen. 8, c. 4.

* Vide EAST HADDON, vol. 1, p. 162.—& STANGE, vol. 1, p. 623.

+ Vide vol. 1, p. 493.

this county, Leekhampton in Buckinghamshire, Elmington in Oxfordshire, and
William Fermour of Somerton in Oxfordshire, esq.; and covenants to deliver "unto the keeping and custody of the
abbot and monasterie of St. Peters of Westm^r" all manner of evidences concerning the premises "saufly surely and
indifferently to be kepte" according to the tenor of the covenants and agreements made between them; that the said
manors and lands are of the clear value of £100 yearly; that he is "verey owner thereof and of every pcell thereof in
use or in possession;" that he will make a good and lawful estate thereof to sir William Pierrepont and other feoffees
to the use of William Fermour in fee, and that if he should be "evicted expelled and put oute" he would make
estate to him of other manors and lands of equal value ^p. By another indenture of the same date, Fermor demises
the said manors and lands to Emson for life, paying until such time as he hath lawful issue a peppercorn yearly "yf
it be asked," and afterwards to pay ^p for every yeare of as many yerres as from the date of this present indentures
shall be ended passed and determined unto such tyme as it shall fortune the said Thomas Emsonne to have issue"
100 marks (£66. 13s. 4d.) at one entire payment, viz. if but one half year be ended before such issue had, 50 marks,
if one whole year 100 marks, if one year and a half £100, if for two years 200 marks, and so on in proportion. And by
a third indenture dated the day following, Fermor "for the grete love and favour which he hath and berith
towards the seide Thomas Emsonne and at the special instance requeste and desire" of Emson, covenants
that if Emson at any time of his life hath issue, and shall pay him £1000 within four years from the birth of such
child by equal instalments, and for every half year from the date of the indenture until the birth of such child 50
marks and so in proportion, in one whole sum within four years, that then he shall have all the said manors and lands
"unto hym and to his heires for ever, and that sir William Pierrepont and the other feoffees shall stand seised of
them to his use in fee; and Emson covenants that, if he should make default of said payments, the feoffees shall stand
seised to the use of Fermor in fee; and further covenants that during the time he hath no issue, or shall make default
of said payments, he will not charge exchange or sell the said manors and lands other than for his life, without the
special assent and consent of Fermor, and will not do nor suffer to be done anything by which the estate of fee simple
in the feoffees shall be taken away or avoided, and that it shall be lawful as well for Fermor as for the feoffees to enter
and expell him or his heires and to hold and enjoy the same to the only use of Fermor and his heires for ever⁴.

From Vincent's MSS. 114 & 124 in College of Arms, with numerous additions from Fermor evidences and other authorities.

Arms. Gules, a chevron between three pears Or.

PETER EMPSON, of Towcester, oc. 26 Hen. 6 (1448) ob. 13 Edw. 4 (1473). — ELIZABETH, d. & coh. of Thomas Joseph of Towcester, esq. living 15 Edw. 4 (1475).

Sir RICHARD EMPSON, of Easton Nes-
ton, b. at Towcester, co. 14 Edw. 4 (1474). of
ELIZABETH; w. of William Spencer, of Radburn, co.
Warw. esp. 1 Hen. 7 (1485).
ANNE; 1st w. of John Spencer, of Hodnell,
co. Warw. esp. 12 Hen. 7 (1496-7).

ton, D. at Worcester, Dec. 14 Edw. 4 (1474), recorder of Coventry, chancellor of duchy of Lancaster, attainted of high treason 1 Hen. 8 (1509), beheaded on Tower hill 17 Aug. 1510 (2 Hen. 8), bur. in 1513. *See* 1513. *See* 1513.

ELIZABETH; w. of William Spencer, of Radburn, co.
Warw. co. 1 Hen. 7 (1485).⁴¹

ANNE; 1st w. of John Spencer, of Hodnell,
co. Warw. esq. 12 Hen. 7 (1496-7).

Vide ALTHORP, vol. 1, p. 109.

1. THOMAS EMPSON, of Easton Neston, esq. sold Easton Neston, Towcester, Sc. living 22 Hen. 8 (1530) ob. s. p. circ. 27 Hen. 8 (1535); mar. Ethelreda, d. & h. of sir Guy Wolston of Tansover, oc. 24 Hen. 7 (1508) & 7 Hen. 8 (1515).	JOHN EMPSON, of Easton Neston- ton, esq. 2d son? living 15 Hen. 8 (1523); mar. Agnes 2d d. & h. of Henry Lovell, of Hart- ington, co. Sussex, and Preston Capes, esq. ob. s. p.
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h. GEORGE = E
ATESBY, of ne
edgers Ash- si
y, esq. ob. co
9 Nov. 21
den.7(1505).
ATESBY, of LK
EDGERS ASHBY, vol
p. 245.

2 h. sir
THOMAS
& LUCY, of
Charlcote,
co. Warw.
ob. 3 Sept.
17 Hen. 8,
(1525).
LUCY, of CHARL-
COTE, CO. WARW.

HENRY
MILL, of
Salton,
Notts,
Jerny
eral to
a. 7.

AN, = h. sir WILLIAM
& PIERREPOINT, of
Holme Pierre-
point, co. Notts.
Kt. banneret, liv.
22 Hen. 8 (1530); 1
w. Jean Stapleton.
PIERREPOINT, DUKE of
KINGSTON ON HULL, co.
York, ext. 1773.
PIERREPOINT, EARL

.....; w.
of
Tyrrell,
of Thorn-
ton, co.
Bucks.

1 h. JOHN JANE, = 2 h. THOMAS
PINCHON, sist. & WILSON, LL.D.
of Writtle, coh. sec. of state to
co. Essex, Q. Eliz.
esq.

PINCHON, of WRITTLE,
co. Essex.

1. ELIZABETH, d. & coh.; 2 w. of sir William Drury, of Hawsted, co. Suffolk.

2. JOAN, d. & coh.; w. of sir John Constable, of Kinalton, co. Notts.

¹ Act of parl. 1 Hen. 8, c. 8.

¹ Ibid., p. 12.

1. Ibid. p. 15.

$$= E_{\text{eq}} - 1 \text{ H}_{\text{eq}} - 2 - 2 \text{ H}_{\text{eq}} - 2 \text{ s. } 2 \text{ H}_{\text{eq}} - 2 \text{ p. } 21$$

* Rot. Pat. 24 Feb. 3 Hen. 8, p. 3.

* Act of parl. 4 Hen. 8: c. 7.

† Former evidences.

William Fernor, esq. either purchased in trust for his brother Richard Fernor, esq., or relinquished the purchase to him within three years; for Bridges states that in the twenty-second of Henry VIII. Thomas Empson, esq. sold this manor to Richard Fernor, esq. and in proof cites 'a docket of certain covenants between them, dated then, lying amongst the deeds of Northampton', which, however, is not now extant in the corporation archives. He was a merchant of the staple at Calais, and, having by fortunate speculations acquired an ample fortune, seated himself here, and lived in a style of splendid hospitality. But being a zealous catholic, and neglecting or refusing to conform to the successive alterations in the national religion, he rendered himself obnoxious to the court; and being accused of administering relief to Nicholas Thane, formerly his confessor, who was then a close prisoner in Buckingham castle for denying the king's supremacy, he was committed to the Marshalsea in July 1540, and being afterwards arraigned in Westminster hall, though nothing could be proved against him, except that he had sent 8d. and a couple of shirts to the imprisoned priest, he was adjudged to have incurred a *praemunire*, whereby all his lands and goods became forfeited, and the rapacious monarch enforced the sentence with the most unrelenting severity. Thus persecuted, and stripped of his possessions, he retired to Wappenham (where he was lessee of the parsonage*) and passed in seclusion several years of piety and resignation.

During his prosperity, he had for his jester Will. Sommers, afterwards so celebrated in that capacity in the royal establishment. Recollecting with gratitude his former master, and commiserating his reverse of fortune, Sommers is said to have availed himself of the unbridled privilege of his office, to make a pointed appeal to the king in his last illness, which so awakened his conscience that he gave immediate directions for making restitution; but death frustrated his intention, which was not carried into effect till 4 Edw. 6 (1550)† when Easton Neston, Towcester, and those manors which had not been granted out by the crown, were restored to him, and various manors and lands in this and other counties granted to him as some compensation for those which had been alienated; but the whole thus obtained was not adequate to "one-third of what he had before possessed." By his will dated 5 July 1550 he bequeathed his soul to Almighty God his maker and redeemer and to our blessed lady St. Mary the virgin mother of Christ and to all the company of heaven, beseeching them to be his mediators and intercessors unto Almighty God for the salvation of his sinful soul; and amongst other legacies gave £20 to his brother William Fernor, praying him to be good, loving, and kind to his poor children as he had always been unto him and unto them before time. He died in Nov. 5 Edw. 6 (1551) leaving his son and heir sir John Fernor aged thirty-six years‡, whose grandson sir Halton Fernor in 15 Jac. (1617) had a grant of free warren in his manors of "Estneston, Hulcote, Shewersley alias Showeslie, and Towcester alias Tocester." The three succeeding generations were honored with an accession of hereditary rank. Sir William Fernor, his son, a staunch adherent to the royal cause, was created a BARONET by king Charles I. in 1641; his son of the same names was raised to the peerage by the title of BARON LEMPSTER in 1692; and his son Thomas 2d lord Lempster was advanced to the dignity of EARL of POMFRET in 1721. From him, the earldom and estates lineally descended to Thomas-William the 4th earl, who entered the army as an ensign in the 3d guards in 1791. He served in Flanders in 1793, and was at the battle of Famars, the sieges of Valenciennes and Dunkirk, and the battle of Lincolles. He was in Ireland during the rebellion; and was present in the several actions in the expedition to the Helder. He accompanied the guards to the Peninsula, and for the battle of Salamanca had the honor of wearing a medal. He died in 1833, and was succeeded by George-William-Richard, the present and 5th earl, a minor.

FERMOR, EARL OF POMFRET; AND DENYS, OF STRATFORD PLACE, CO. MIDDX. BARONET.



From the peerages, Fernor evidences, parish registers of Easton Neston*, All Saints, Northampton †, and other authorities.

Arms. FERMOR ANCIENT. Argent, on a fess Sable between three lions' heads erased Gules as many anchors Or. **FERMOR MODERN.** Argent, a fess Sable between three lions' heads erased Gules. Sir George Fernor was the first that procured the anchors upon the fess in his arms to be taken away, which was done by Cooke, Clarendon, and Richard Lee, Richmond, 1591. **Crest.** Out of a ducal coronet Or, a cock's head issuing Gules, crested and wattled Or. **Supporters.** Two lions Proper. **Motto.** Hora e sempre.

Arms. DENYS. Argent, a cross patee between four fleurs de lis Vert, on a chief Azure a greyhound courant of the Field. **Crest.** A demi-lion Ermineo, collared Gules, holding between the paws a French lily slipped Proper. **Motto.** Hora e sempre.

... RICARDS, or RICHARDS, said to be of ... d. and h. of ... Fernor, Welch extraction. of co. Oxon.

1 w. ALICE, THOMAS RICARDS, alias FERMOR, of EKMOTTE, d. & h. of ... h. HENRY WEN-
d. of ... Witney, co. Oxon, temp. Hen. 6 ob. Sinkin Hervey, of co. MAN, esq. ob. temp.
1 Hen. 7 (1485), bur. in St. Mary Hereford; living 1486. Edw. 4.
Magdalen chap. Witney.

VISCOUNT WENMAN in Ireland, est.

LAURENCE FER-ELIZABETH, 1. RICHARD FERMOR, of Easton-ANNE, d. & coh. 1 w. ... d. ... w. KATHERINE, d. of WILLIAM FERMOR, of ... w. ELIZABETH,
MOR, of Minister d. of Henry Neston, esq., a merchant of the of sir William of ... wid. sir William Poulett, ob. Somerton, co. Oxon, ... d. of sir William
Lovel, co. Oxon. Wymers. staple at Calais; ob. 17 Nov. Brown, lord of ... Mar. 29 May 2 Hen. 8 (1510); esq. 3d son, ob. s. p. d. of Norris, of Tel-
5 Edw. 6 (1551), Rev. 5 Edw. 6, mayord. London; row, of co. bur. at Horsham, co. 20 Sept. 6 Edw. 6 ... tander, co. Berks; bur. at Somerton.
p. 2, n. 30, bur. at Easton. Middx. Essex. (1552); bur. there.

* Br. 1, p. 290. * E. Not. MS. P. Le Neve.
* Pat. 9 Jul. 15 Jac.

* Fernor evidences.

* Pat. 28 Mar. 4 Edw. 6, p. 9, and Fernor evidences.

* Esc. 5 Edw. 6, p. 2, n. 30.



1. GEORGE 34=MARY, d. & h. earl of Pomfret, of Thomas Trol- b. at Sandbury, laps Drowen, co. Wilts. 1769, bap. at St. Martin's in the fields, co. Middx. ob. 4. p. 29 Aug. 1793, 7 Apr. bur* 17. Apr. 1830.	2. THOMAS WILLIAM 4th earl of Pomfret, b. at Sandbury, co. Middx. 22 Nov. bap. 29 Dec. 1770, major-general 1813, lieutenant-general 1825, knight of the royal Portuguese order of the tower and sword, F.R.S. & F.S.A. ob. 29 June, bur* 7 July 1853.	AMABELL ELIZABETH, eldest d. of sir Richard Brough, of Portland place, Middx. bart. by Anna-Maria, eldest d. of Gerard 1st viscount Lake, b. 10 June 1602; mar. at St. Geo. Han- over sq. co. Middx. 13 Jan. 1823, living 1835.	CHARLOTTE, only dau. b. at Sandbury, co. Middx. 27 Nov. bap. 27 Dec. 1766, mar* 21 July 1787, living 1835.	PETER DENYS, of the Pavilions, Chelsea, co. Middx. esq. ship- riff co. North. 1812, ob. at the Pavilions 27 Jan. bur* 15 July 1816, et. 56.
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THE PARK AND MANSION. Sir Richard Empson in 14 Hen. 7 (1499) obtained a licence to impark four hundred acres of land and thirty acres of wood in Estneston and Hulcote, with free warren and free fishery in those lordships, and permission to embattle his manor house at Estneston. This house stood between the church and the river Tove, and is memorable as the place where king James I. first met his queen, Anne of Denmark, and his son prince Henry, on their coming into England after his accession to the throne; and also as the place where both their majesties met their second son, afterwards king Charles I. on his first arrival in England. The first of these royal visits was on the 27th of June 1603, when the queen and prince came from Althorp two days after they had been received there with the poetical entertainment written by Ben Jonson*. "From Althorp June 27th being Monday," says lady Anne Clifford in her diary, "the Queene went to sir Hatton [sir George?] Fermo's, wher the king mett her, wher they wear an infinit companie of lords and ladies and other people that the countrie could scarce lodge them." A night or two before, lady Anne Clifford "with my aunt and my mother lay at sir Richard Knightleys, when my lady Elizabeth Knightley made exceedingly much of us." On this occasion the king knighted at Easton Neston, sir Hatton Fermo, of Buckinghamshire, the son of his host; sir Edward Lee; sir Thomas Wodehouse, of Norfolk (afterwards the first baronet, and ancestor of the present lord Wodehouse); sir Francis Curson of Shropshire; sir Richard Conquest of Bedfordshire; sir Ralph Tempest of Herefordshire; sir Edward Randall of Surrey; sir Anthony Chester of Herefordshire; and sir Walter Vaughan of Herefordshire. The second royal visit took place early in October 1604, being thus mentioned in the autobiography of sir Robert Cary, afterwards earl of Monmouth, who was governor of prince Charles: "I attended his grace all his journey up; and at sir George Fermo's in Northamptonshire were found the king and queen, who were very glad to see their young son."

The present mansion, erected by William lord Lempster, is on a more elevated site, commanding a pleasing view of Towcester and the forest of Whittlebury in the distance. The wings were built by sir Christopher Wren; and the centre, by Nicholas Hawksmoor, was finished in 1702 about twenty years after the erection of the wings, which have been subsequently removed. The western facade in its original state extended three hundred and twenty feet, as appears from an elevation in Campbell's Vitruvius. Morton in describing this elegant mansion indulges in a strain of hyperbolical commendation, "As Easton, my Lord Lempster's House, is built of a fair, white, and durable Stone from Helmdon, which is freer from an intermixture of yellowish Spots than is that of Kettleton, and is indeed the finest building Stone I have seen in England. 'Tis an accurate piece of Building, and has all the Conveniences of the modern Architecture. No seat in Europe according to good Judges exceeds it. 1. In the Stone of which the Structure is built. 2. That notwithstanding the appearing Smallness it has so many Rooms of State. 3. That there is no part of the Space or Room within useless. The Garden is richly adorned with antique Statues, and with other valuable species of ancient Sculpture: a Collection of vast Value, being all the more ornamental part of the *Marmoræ Arundeliana*. The statues express a Life and Beauty which are, and well deserve to be, much admired." Bridges adds, "Some of them however are of a later date; for upon the pedestals of three of the statues is this inscription, *Egidius Moretus Romanus faciebat*, which shews them to be modern. In a room adjoining to the south end of the house are several statues, and remains of antiquity, that are maimed and imperfect; and the present Lord [about 1720] hath employed an Italian, one Giovanni Battista Guelfi, a scholar of Camillo Rusconi, to supply their defects." A description of the house and grounds with a minute enumeration of the statues and pictures was published by Brian Fairfax in 1758. Before the close of the same year, Easton was despoiled of its sculptured treasures by Henrietta Louisa widow of Thomas 1st earl of Pomfret, son of the lord Lempster who purchased them of the earl of Arundel. The countess presented this valuable collection, consisting of upwards of one hundred and thirty ancient Greek, Roman, and Egyptian statues, busts, and basso relievos, to the university of Oxford; and it now lies neglected and unarranged, in the logic and moral philosophy schools. Many of the pictures also have disappeared, particularly the interesting one of the family of Lenox in the reign of Elizabeth, so circumstantially described by Bridges^b.

* Rot. Pat. 22 Jan. 14 Hen. 7.

* Nichols's Progresses of K. James 1st, vol. 1, p. 167, 168, 169, 459.

* Morton, p. 493.

* Br. 1, p. 389.

* Vide vol. 1, p. 111.

The house presents two fronts, east and west, of nearly corresponding design; a rustic basement, a double flight of steps, a range of nine windows divided by corinthian pilasters, a central pediment, and a balustrade, on which were ancient statues, but being included in the gift to the university of Oxford, they have been replaced on the west front by urns and lions. The entrance hall, now converted into a dining room, is a noble room; the centre rises the height of two stories, and the sides of one only, forming vestibules or recesses, one of which is still used as a hall. The walls are in compartments with niches, in which casts of statues and busts are substituted for the originals. The chimney piece of Egyptian marble designed by Kent is massive and elegant. The compartments of the staircase are ornamented with subjects from the life of king Cyrus in *chiara oscura* by sir James Thornhill; and in six niches are plaster casts of celebrated antique statues. The bed rooms abound with tapestry; Alexander and Diogenes; Alexander taming Bucephalus; and a series of ten pieces from Raphael's designs, which formerly belonged to the duke of Richmond. The principal pictures are; *Dining room*: Frederick, prince of Wales in his robes, full length, *Ramsay*; King George III. when young, in his robes, full length, *Ramsay*; William, duke of Cumberland, when young, in his robes, full length, *Ramsay*. *Large Drawing room*: Anna Maria, countess of Pomfret, in her robes, full length, *Reynolds*. In the compartments of this room are six fine sporting pieces; two bear hunts, a boar hunt, a fawn hunt, coursing, and a dog springing game, all by *Abraham Hondius*. *Small Drawing room*: Charles II. in his robes, full length, *Kneller*; a lady seated on the ground, *Kneller*; William Wharton, esq. 4th son of Philip lord W. *Kneller*. *Saloon*: rape of the Sabines, *N. Poussin*; two Turkish entertainments; Flemish and Spanish cavaliers carousing, on a jug which stands on the table is written *Gregorius Osterlinck*, probably the name of the artist; large landscape, *Salvator Rosa*. *Music room*: a young lady as a shepherdess, *Lely*; John, duke of Marlborough, when young, in a shooting dress, attended by a page leading his horse, *Kneller*; George 2d earl of Pomfret (then lord Lempsster) and his sister Sophia, afterwards countess Granville, when young, in fancy dresses, *Ramsay*; Flemish musical party, *Palestrina*; death of Germanicus, *N. Poussin*; the Annunciation, *Guido*; Battle of Valenciennes, 8 ft. 6 in. by 12 ft. 2 in. by *P. De Louthembourg*, R.A. in which is introduced portraits of 1. prince Frederick of Orange. 2. col. Moncrief. 3. marquis of Huntley. 4. hered: prince of Orange. 5. H. R. H. prince Ernest (duke of Cumberland). 6. field marshal Freytag; 7. sir James Murray. 8. col. Hulse. 9. H. R. H. prince Adolphus (duke of Cambridge). 10. maj.-gen. Lake. 11. gen. count Walmoden. 12. H. R. H. Frederick, duke of York. 13. lieutenant-col. St. Leger. 14. prince Hohenlohe. 15. maj.-gen. Abercrombie. 16. archduke Charles Louis. 17. ensign Tollemache. 18. lieutenant-col. Doyle. 19. an officer of the regt. of Stuart. 20. maj. Congreve. 21. col. Leigh. 22. gen. count Ferraris. 23. an officer of the regt. of Barco. 24. lieutenant. Thornton. 25. gen. count Clairfait. 26. prince Frederick of Wurtemberg. 27. maj.-gen. Wenckheim. 28. H. S. H. the prince of Saxe Cobourg. *Gallery*: view in Windsor park, with earl and countess of Pomfret, *Hubert Pugh*; Parade in St. James's park before the present buildings were erected; sir William Fermor, bart. in armour, full length; Mary Perry, his wife, full length; William 1st lord Lempsster, in his robes, full length, *Kneller*; Sophia d. of duke of Leeds, his wife, full length, *Kneller*; Thomas 1st earl of Pomfret, K.B. *Zeeman*; Henrietta Louisa Jefferys, his wife, *Zeeman*; Thomas marquis of Wharton, kit-kat, *Kneller*; Philip lord Wharton, seated in his robes, 1685, full length, *Kneller*; lady Wharton, 1697, full length, *Kneller*; col. Henry Wharton, *Kneller*; Lucy Loftus, marchioness of Wharton; Mr. Draycott, grandfather of Anna Maria countess of Pomfret; George 3d earl of Pomfret, lady Charlotte Denys, and gen. Fermor (afterwards 4th earl of Pomfret) full length, *Fuseli*; sir Hatton Fermor; George lord Jefferys, ld. ch. just. K.B. in his robes, *Kneller*; death of Seneca, *Reubens*; Mars and Venus, *A. Coyppil*; Manoa's sacrifice, *Sebastian Bourdon*; Cupid and Psyche brought before Jupiter by Mercury, *Annacconi*. In the gallery and different rooms are several unappropriated portraits.

EASTON HOUSE is about a mile north of Towcester. There is no village, but the parish of Easton contained by the census of 1801, 28 houses and 114 inhabitants; by that of 1811, the same number of houses and 111 inhabitants; by that of 1821, 30 houses and 137 inhabitants; and by that of 1831, 32 houses and 144 inhabitants. The annual quota of land tax for this parish is £178. 9s. 10½d. at 4s. in the £. The estimated value of real property as assessed to the property tax of 10 per cent. for the year ending April 1815 amounted to £3692. The poor rates for the year ending Easter 1832 raised £174. 11s. at 2s. in the £.

ADVOWSON. In 9 Edw. 2 (1316) Geoffrey de Bradden, lord of the manor, 'made a grant of one acre of land here, with the advowson of the church, to the convent of *Sewardesley*; and the prioress then paid a fine of xls. for licence to enter upon this lay-fee in *Eaton Neston*, and to appropriate the church to the uses of the convent.' Notwithstanding a confirmation of it was obtained from the crown in 34 Edw. 3 (1360)* sir Thomas Green, then lord of the manor in 44 Edw. 3 (1370), 'attempted to recover the living out of the hands of the prioress and nuns of *Sewardesley*†; but the cause was decided in favor of the convent,† and they continued in undisturbed possession till the dissolution.

THE ADVOWSON OF THE VICARAGE in 4 Edw. 6 (1550) was granted to Richard Fermor, esq., and has subsequently accompanied the manor.

THE RECTORY was rated in the taxations of 1254 (38 Hen. 3)‡ and of 1291 (20 Edw. 1)§ at 10 marks (£26. 13s. 4d. per ann.; and at the ecclesiastical survey of 1535 (26 Hen. 8) the profits arising from the rectory to the prioress and nuns of *Sewardesley* were valued at the same sum, deducting 10s. 7d. for procurations and synodals¶. The impropriate rectory of Eastneston, 'otherwise called the rectory and church of Eastneston and Hulcote,' parcel of the late priory of *Sewardesley* was (int. al.) granted to James Rogers and Richard Veale, gents. in 3 Edw. 6 (1549)§; and sold

* Br. 1, p. 290. † Esc. anno 9 Edw. 2, n. 159.

‡ Ibid. † Rot. Fin. anno 9 Edw. 2, m. 13.

§ Br. 1, p. 290. † Reg. Joh. Buckingham Ep. Linc.

¶ Pat. 28 Mar. 4 Edw. 6, p. 9.

† Tax. Eccl. p. 34. † Augm. Off.

‡ Pat. 18 Aug. 3 Edw. 6, p. 11.

* Pat. 34 Edw. 3, p. 2, m. 25.

† Cotton MSS. Nero D. x. 6. 180.

by them in 4 & 5 Ph. & Mar. (1556-7) to John Williams lord Williams of Thame in Oxfordshire^m, who by his will dated 18 Mar. 1558-9, devised it with other property for the foundation of a free grammar school in that town, under the care of a master and usher for ever; and in Aug. 1574 his executors Robert Doyley, esq. and Richard Place, gent. conveyed the property so vested in them, to the warden and scholars of New college, Oxford, to the uses of his lordship's willⁿ. By a suit in the exchequer in 1782, the warden and scholars recovered the tithes of corn, grain, and hay, which have been since held under them by the earls of Pomfret.

THE VICARAGE is in the deanry of Preston. The nuns of Sewardsey had a licence for appropriating this church in 1316, but nearly a century elapsed before it was acted upon. The vicarage was ordained by bishop Beaufort in the garden called the "rekeyerd" on the south side, and all manner of tithes, the tithes of corn and grain only excepted; and all burdens, as well as ordinary as extraordinary, to be borne by the nunsⁿ. In the ecclesiastical survey of 1535 (26 Hen. 8) the vicarage was valued at £8 *per ann.* arising from tithes and oblations^o. The parliament commissioners in 1655 certified it to be a vicarage worth £53 *per ann.*; that Mr. Robert Young the incumbent was presented by the lords commissioners of the great seal, and that he received the profits and supplied the cure^p. It was afterwards certified to the governors of queen Anne's bounty to be worth £32, 2s. 6d. *per ann.* It now consists by endowment or subsequent usage, of a few acres of glebe land which have been long intermixed with the manor grounds, and in lieu of which the lord of the manor pays to the vicar £5. 13s. 6d. yearly; and all the tithes arising within the parish except those of corn, grain and hay, which belong to the impropriate rectory.

The vicarage is a mean cottage at Hulcote.

RECTORS. *Nicholas de Grey*, subdeacon, by sir Henry Murdae 1223.

William.

Gilbert de la Hay, chaplain, by sir William de Bradden, 18 Nov. 1286.

William de Thame, clerk, 31 May 1292.

Simon de Clifton, priest, by sir Geoffrey de Bradden, 21 June 1311. His other preferments in the county have been enumerated under Catesby.

John de Uppingham, priest, by the prioress and convent of Sewardsey, 17 Oct. 1321. He has been already noticed under Norton by Daventry.

William de Radburn, occurs 1340, 1356, and 1368^a.

Thomas Stevens, chaplain, 1 Feb. 1368.

John Tuny, priest, 6 May 1370.

Thomas Mareschal, priest, 19 Jan. 1371. He obtained the rectory of Stoke Bruern in 1377.

VICARS. *Henry Hereward*, chaplain, to the vicarage of the church of Estneston lately ordained, by the prioress and convent of Sewardsey, 9 Apr. 1403.

Thomas Hawkes.

John Burges, priest, 17 Nov. 1437.

Richard Schaumbre.

Geoffrey Doudé, priest, 8 June 1443.

Henry Wilby.

Thomas Miller, occurs 1454^a.

John Symond, priest, 5 Dec. 1467.

Sir William Stokys, priest, 28 Apr. 1475.

Sir William Baker, priest, 4 July 1481. He was also rector of Heyford from 1470-1 to 1483-4, and of Cold Higham from 1483 to 1513.

Sir Robert Richardson, priest, 17 June 1501. He was instituted to Hargrave rectory in 1508.

John Lynnell, clerk, by Richard Farmor, by grant from the prioress and convent of Sewardsey, 28 Feb. 1537. He was rector of Tiffeld 1545 to 1559. On his decease

Edward Stoke was presented by George Farmor, esq. and instituted 23 Oct. 1575.

William Byll or Bill was inst. 4 June 1583, on the presentation of George Farmor or Farmor, esq.

John Borriddone or Boradé was presented by the same patron, then sir George Farmor, and inst. 15 Aug. 1611, on the resignation of the last incumbent.

Robert Young occurs vicar in 1653 and 1655^p, and on his decease

Gregory Hobart, A.B. was inst. 17 Jan. 1661-2, on the presentation of lady Anne Farmor.

John Dehaan, of Magdalen coll. Oxf. B.D. was presented by sir William Farmor, bart. and inst. 20 May 1668. He was a native of Warwickshire, became demy of Magdalen college about 1653, and perpetual fellow in 1662. He became a very popular preacher, and in 1663 delivered memoriter the four Easter sermons "to the wonder of the auditory" in the university church of St. Mary's; but before the close of the year, a dispute having arisen between Dr. Thomas Pierce, president of Magdalen college, and Dr. Yerbury, he was expelled the university for a libellous lampoon, entitled "Dr. Pierce his preaching exemplified in his practice, or an antidote to the poison of a scurrilous pamphlet sent by N. G. to a friend in London," which is said to have been written by the doctor himself, but adopted by Dobson to screen the doctor when an active inquisition was made to discover the author. He was, however, soon after restored to his station in the college. In 1670 he published a funeral sermon on 1 Thess. 4, v. 13, for "the lady Mary Farmor, relict of sir William Farmor, baronet," &c. To the patronage of sir William Farmor, son of lady Mary, he was also indebted for the rectories of Cold Higham and of Corscomb in Dorsetshire, both which he retained till his death in 1681, but resigning Easton,

John Younger, of Magdalen coll. Oxf. B.D. was inst. 17 May 1671, on the presentation of the same patron. His resignation introduced

Jethro King, of Corpus Christi coll. Oxf. A.M. who was presented by the same patron, and inst. in 1688-9. He was buried here 30 May 1707^r, and

Edward Cooke, of Merton or Corpus Christi coll. Oxf. A.M. was inst. in June following on the presentation of the same patron, then lord Leampster. He published a funeral sermon on 1 Thess. 4, v. 14, for William Ives, esq. (of Bradden), 8vo. 1719. A sermon from Luke 1, v. 46, 48, on the augmentation of a vicarage. 8vo. 1722. He had also the rectory of Cold Higham from 1729, and was buried here 25 Oct. 1741^s, when he was succeeded in both benefices by

John Nixon, of King's coll. Camb. A.M. who was inst.

^a Farmor evidences.

^r Reg. Henr. Beaufort Ep. Line.

^s Augus. Of.

^t Lambeth MSS. vol. 30.

^u Farmor evidences.

^v Per. reg.

27 Mar. 1742, on the presentation of Thomas earl of Pomfret. He was author of an ode to the Queen on the prospect of peace, fol. 1728. Merlin, a poem. fol. 1736. Marmor Estonianum, seu Dissertatio de Sella Marmorea Votiva Estonie in Agro Northamptoniensi conservatâ. 4to. 1744. A sermon on Ps. 90, v. 16, 17, for the benefit of the Northampton infirmary. 8vo. 1749. Essay on a sleeping Cupid; being one of the Arundelian marbles, in the collection of the earl of Pomfret. 4to. 1755. Of this last tract the Monthly reviewers observe, "We do not remember ever to have seen for so short a performance, such numerous quotations from the learned languages, and variety of references to different authors." He was elected F.R.S. in 1744; and besides the above publications contributed some very learned essays to the Philosophical

Transactions in 1757, 1758, 1759, and 1762. This accomplished scholar died at Cold Higham in May 1777, but having resigned this benefice,

John Bishop, A.B. was presented by George 2d earl of Pomfret, and inst. 3 Feb. 1770. On obtaining the rectory of Cold Higham, he resigned, and

Robinson Lawford, previously noticed under Edgcote and Bradden, was inst. 1 Aug. 1777 on the presentation of the same patron. On his resignation

William Satterthwaite, of St. John's coll. Camb. rector of Dodington, was presented by George 3d earl of Pomfret, and inst. 9 Dec. 1807. His death introduced

Peter Felix, of Trin. coll. Camb. who was inst. 3 Feb. 1825, on the presentation of the same patron. He is also vicar of Llamlar in Cardiganshire.

THE REGISTERS commence in 1559.

THE CHURCH, dedicated to the holy virgin, adjoins the grounds south of the mansion, and consists of a tower containing six bells, nave, north and south aisles, south porch, north chapel, and chancel. According to Bridges, * on the first bell is inscribed, *Perfect Campana Ecclesie Tuba*; on the second in Gothic characters, *Eternis annis resonet Campana Johannis*; on the third, *Soli Deo gloria pax hominibus*; and on the fourth, *Ex dono Huttoni Farnor Militis*, 1647. Two of them have been subsequently recast. The north aisle dedicated to the Trinity, the nave, and the belfry, were rebuilt in the reign of Henry VI. by the executors of John Bacon, citizen and woolstapler of London. The tower is 10ft. long by 14 ft. wide; the nave and aisles 42ft. 4in. long, the nave 16ft. 1in. the north aisle 16ft. 6in., and the south aisle 16ft. wide; the north chapel 18ft. 9in. by 16ft. 9in., and the chancel 30ft. 6in. by 16ft. 9in. The ample funds for repairing the church have enabled the feecees to keep the interior in an excellent state; it is well paved with stone, and uniformly pewed with oak; and the east window is embellished with a fine representation in modern stained glass, of the baptism of Christ. The font is octagonal. The nave is divided from each aisle by three lofty arches on multangular pillars with plain capitals; and the chancel is entered under an open arch.

MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS.

NORTH AISLE. I. On a neat mural tablet of white and black marble:

IN AFFECTIONATE AND GRATEFUL MEMORY
OF THE LONG AND VALUABLE SERVICES OF
ISAAC MANNING, Esq.
WHO DIED ON THE 21st OF APRIL 1833, AGED 60,
FOR MANY YEARS STEWARD, SUCCESSIVELY,
TO GEORGE, AND THOMAS-WILLIAM, EARLS OF POMFRET.
AND IN CORDIAL TESTIMONY OF HIS MERITORIOUS FULFILMENT

OF THE SOLEMN REQUISITION, "THAT A STEWARD BE FOUND
FAITHFULL."

THE ERECTION OF THIS TABLET HAD BEEN CONTEMPLATED
BY THOMAS-WILLIAM EARL OF POMFRET;
HIS INTENTION FRUSTRATED BY DEATH, IS FULFILLED BY HIS
WIDOW, AMABELL-ELIZABETH, COUNTESS OF POMFRET.

II. Collateral with the last, on a rectangular tablet of white marble, edged with black:

THIS TABLET
SACRED TO THE MEMORY
OF

Mrs. ELIZABETH BENTLEY,
A GOOD CHRISTIAN AND A SINCERE FRIEND,
WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE,

FEBRUARY 4th 1813, ET. 57.

IS ERECTED AS A TESTIMONY OF REGARD, BY THE
RIGHT HONOURABLE LADY CHARLOTTE DENYS,
WITH WHOM SHE LIVED AS HOUSEKEEPER
MANY YEARS, AND IS INTERRED NEAR THIS PLACE.

1. On slabs:

Deposuitum
Jethronis King, A.M.
Hujus Eccles. Vic.
Necnon
Apud Twocaster Archidiaconi

ob. Mar. 28.

An. { Dom. 1707,
Ætat. 53.
Juxta jacet
Uxor ejus Eliz:
Filia Johan: Godwin
Quæ sepult:
An: Dom.

2. M^{rs} Eliz. Bentley, Feb. 4, 1813, æt. 57.

NORTH CHAPEL. III. On a pyramidal marble tablet,
Fermor in a lozenge:

M. S.
ANNÆ GUL. FERMON, Baronett: Filie
Honoratiss. GUL. Baronis de LIMPSTER sororis
Quæ obiit Jun: 14^a 1740.
Virgo tantum non Octogenaria
Bonorum operum et Dierum Plena.

SOUTH AISLE.

2. Henry Shawe, servant of Hon. Lady Mary Fermor, 19
Oct. 1670, æt. 48.

3. HERE LYETH THE BODY OF WILL^m
TINGLE, GENT. WHO HAD ISSUE BY
HIS WIFE ANNE 2 SONS AND 3
DAUGHTERS WHERE OF ONLY ONE
DAUGHTER DOTH SURVIVE, THE
OTHERS BEING FALLEN ASLEEP
IN THE MORNING OF THEIR DAY
AS HEE IN THE NOONE OF HIS, DYING
IN THE 44th YEARE OF HIS AGE
SEPT. 6, AND IN THIS VERY PLACE
WHERE HE HAD BEFORE GIVEN
SOE MANY PLEDGES TO THE GRAVE,
WAS HIMSELFE INTERR'D,
SEPT. ye 9th 1668.

* Br. 1, p. 291.

4. Anne Tingle, infant d. of Will^m T. gent, by Anne his wife, bur. 3 Apr. 1668.

5. Mary Tingle, 2d d. of William T. gent. & Anne his w. ob. inf. 11 Oct. 1664.

THE CHANCEL contains a chronological series of monumental memorials for the first four generations of the Fermors, and the second and third earls of Pomfret.

IV. Against the south wall, recently removed from the north side within the altar rails, stands an altar tomb of Purbeck marble for Richard Fermor, esq. and his wife Anne Brown. On the slab are their effigies in brass 2 ft. 3 in. long, with their hands elevated. He is in plate armour, with pouldrons and pass guards; elbow gussets, and genouilles terminating in bows; plain greaves, broad-toed jointed sollerets, mail gorget and skirts. On the left side a long sword suspended from a horizontal belt, and on the right side a dagger. His hair is short and cropped, and his head reposes on his crested tilting helmet. She has the pedimental or Anne Boleyn head dress; her vest has an open turned-down collar and hanging demi-sleeves, out of which appear long plaited sleeves trimmed at the wrists; her girdle is studded, and has a pendant tassell. On shields at the four corners of the slab, I and IV. *Fermor ancient*. II. and III. *Fermor*, impaling, per pale indented [Ar. & O.] a chevron between three escallops [G.] *Broune*.

On the front of the tomb, V. *Fermor ancient*. VI. *Fermor*, impaling *Broune*. VII. *Broune*. At the head of the tomb VIII. on a shield inscribed, "Xma Tab'is Hec: mer et Matilde uxor et filia s'ni Ricardi Dausg.", *Fermor ancient* and *Broune* quarterly, impaling quarterly 1 & 4, chequy [Ar. & G.] on a chevron [Az.] three roses [O.] *Vaux*, 2 & 3 [Ar.] a fess [Az.] between two pair of barnacles in chief, and a rose in base [G.] *Thürning*, quartering 1, (Ar.) on a chevron (G.) between three hawks' heads erased (S.) as many crescents (O.) *Drakelow*. 2. (G.) semée of cross crosslets, three lucies or pikes hauriant (O.) *Lucy*. 3. (Az.) three bucks trippant (O.) *Green*. 4. (G.) a chevron between eight cross crosslets, in chief a lion passant gardant (O.) *Mablethorp*. 5. (Ar.) three chevronels (S.) *Archdeken*? Round the ledge of the tomb:

Here under this tombe lyeth buried the
bodye of Richard Fermor, Esquier, 3. Mar.
chant of the staple of Calais, and Anne his
Wiffe one of ye daughters of Willelm^{us} Browne
Wrighte whiche Richard dyed the xviij
day of November, Ao. D'ni. M^{cccc}xlviij.

V. At the east end of the same wall, placed very high, is a small monument of white marble supported by two tuscan pillars, with the figures of sir John Fermor and his wife kneeling, and a double desk or faldstool between them. On the top, *Fermor ancient* quartering *Broune*, and crest of Fermor. Below the figures:

HERE LIE YE BODIES OF ST JOHN FARMOR, OF ESTON NESTON KNIGHT

OF YE BATH AND DAME MAUD HIS WIFE DAUGHTER OF NICHOLAS VAUX

LORD HARBODEN, THEY HAD 3 SONNES AND THREE DAUGHTERS AND DIED, HEE

YE 20th OF DECEMBER MDLXXI & SHEE YE XIVth OF APRIL MDLXIX.

Vixit pariter multos feliciter annos
Semper honore graves, semper amore pares.

VI. Attached to the north wall, opposite to No. I. is a splendid specimen of the style of sepulchral sculpture prevalent in the reign of James the first. It is of white

marble representing an altar tomb with full sized recumbent effigies in a devotional attitude of sir George Fermor and his wife Mary Curson, flanked by circular corinthian columns supporting a deep entablature, finished at each end with an obelisk, and in the centre by an achievement in a square frame, having on one side a small reclining figure of Justice, and on the other of Truth. Sir George lies on a rolled-up mat, his head resting on his crested tilting helmet, and his feet on his gauntlets; he has short curled hair, and turned down collar; his armour is seamed and studded with gold; the pouldrons and genouilles plain, and the tassettes without any cuilettes, strapped over trunk hose. His lady is raised above him on a black slab, and her head which reposes on a tasselled cushion, has an immense calash or open hood thrown over it. Her hair is turned back; she has a quilled ruff, tight sleeves, and dress fastened down the front from the neck to the feet with bows of ribands. Round the front and ends of the tomb are kneeling figures of seven sons and eight daughters ranging in opposite directions, and over each is a shield; beginning at the head I. to VI. are *Fermor* only, VII. Ar. an eagle displayed S. collared O. within a border S. Bezanty Killigree, impaling *Fermor*. VIII. *Fermor ancient*, impaling *Fermor modern*. IX. to XI. *Fermor*. XII. Ar. a fess between three blackbirds S. *Hobby* impaling *Fermor*. XIII. *Fermor* impaling 1. Ar. a chevron between three crosses flory S. *Anderson*. 2. Ar. three cocks G. *Cockayne*. XIV. 1. O. a chevron G. canton Erm. *Stafford of Blatherley*. 2. G. an inescutcheon Ar. between eight mullets in orle O. *Chamberlayne*, impaling *Fermor*. XV. *Fermor*. XVI. 1. Ar. lion rampant Az. *Crichton*. 2. G. three lions passant in pale O. *O'Brien*, impaling *Fermor*. In dexter spandril of the arch, XVII. *Fermor*. In sinister spandril, XVIII. *Fermor*, impaling Ar. on bend S. three popinjays O. *Curson*. Over the entablature, XIX. *Fermor*, quartering 1. Az. a saltire between four eagles displayed O. *Ricards*. 2. G. on bend Ar. three trefoils slipped V. *Hervey*. [3. *Broune*; helmet and crest of *Fermor*. Within the arch at the back of the figures, radiating from the centre are ranged sixteen pennons bearing arms and crests. 1. *Fermor*. 2. *Ricards*. 3. *Curson*. 4. Ar. on fess S. three conies' heads coupé Ar. 5. *Hervey*. 6. *Broune*. 7. paly of six Ar. & G. a chevron G. 8. per chevron S. & G. three greyhounds' heads erased Ar. 9. Barry of six Ar. & G. 10. Ar. on bend S. a lion passant O. 11. Ar. three bulls passant S. *Hamlyn*? 12. Ar. a fess S. *Kighley*? 13. O. three roses G. *Hornhall*? 14. Ar. three pales and chief O. 15. Crest of *Fermor*. 16. Crest of *Curson*. On the centre of the frieze:

HERE LIETH THE BODY OF ST GEORGE
FARMOR KNIGHT WHO DYED 14th DEC. 1612.
AND THE BODY OF DAME MARY HIS WIFE
WHO DYED 12 OCT. 1628.

On the sides of the frieze were the following inscriptions in the time of Bridges¹, but now obliterated; on the right side:

STRANGER THAT SADLY GAZEST ON THIS
FRAME,
WHAT SEEK'ST THOU HERE? THE MAN,
HIS MINDE, OR FAME?
EARTH, AS HER PART, THE MAN HAS HERE
CONFIN'D
AND HEAVENS, AS THEYRS, HAVE HIS IM-
MORTALL MINDE.

¹ Br. 1, p. 291.

HIS TRAVELS, WARRES, FREENDES, SER-
VANTS, POORE MENS TEARES,
AND COUNTRIE'S LOVE, HAVE SHAR'D HIS
FAME AS THEIRS.
WHAT THEN, OF HIM FOR THEE IS LEFT
TO SPEARE?
HIS LOSSE, WHEREOF, WITH ALL MEN,
TAKE THY SHARE.

On the left side :

HER BOSOME SWEET, THAT DID ALL
GRACES HOLDE,

HERE, FRIEND, IS LODGD IN BOSOME OF
THIS MOLDE.
OUR DOLEFULL EYES MAY WELL THEIR
BOUNDS O'ERFLOW,
TO DROWNE THIS TOMBE, THAT DROWND
HER SWEETNESS SOE.
YET AS HER VIRTUES SHIN'D IN HER ALIVE,
SO NOW IN THEM SHE DOTHS HERSELF SURVIVE,
CEASE THEN, SAD THOUGHTS, AND SPEAKE
HER NOT IN ANY
MONUMENT DEAD, WHOS FAME LIVES
IN SO MANY.

VII. On the south wall immediately over No. 1, is a large and ponderous memorial for sir Hatton Farmor, and his second wife Anne Cockayne. It is of black and white marble, and is highly characteristic of the taste in monumental composition which prevailed soon after the accession of Charles the second. On the dexter side of the base stands a full-sized erect figure of sir Hatton in armour, his right hand pointing to a scull and resting on a baton, and his left hand placed on his hip. He is bareheaded, with curled hair, mustachios, peaked beard, and a large cravat tied loosely round his neck with the ends pendant—a fashion not introduced till after his death. His armour is plain, terminating with cuissarts; and instead of greaves and sollerets, his legs are incased in immense gambado boots flapping loosely down. On the sinister side, is a corresponding figure of his lady, her left hand resting on an hour glass. She has long flowing tresses, and is dressed in a stomacher boddiced gown with short sleeves. Between them, on a pedestal, having a shield in front, is a draped bust, over which is a rectangular inscribed tablet surmounted by an achievement with helmet and crest of *Farmor*, between two shields. The whole is flanked by two black circular corinthian pillars with white bases and capitals supporting an entablature, having at each end a black obelisk edged with white, between which are three demi female figures with hands elevated in prayer, under a canopy of festooned drapery. The achievement bears, 1 & 9. *Farmor*, quartering 1. *Ricards*. 2. *Hervey*. 3. *Broune*. 4. *Curzon*. 5. Ar. on fess G. three conies' heads coupé Ar. 6. paly Ar. & S. on a chevron G. a cross-crosslet O. 7. per fess Ar. & G. in chief two eagles' heads erased Az. & in base a like head Ar. impaling, 1 & 9. *Cockayne*, quartering, 1. Ar. two bars Vt. *Harthull*. 2. O. on a fess between six mullets G. three cross-crosslets O. 3. Ar. six lions rampant S. *Savage*. 4. Ar. a fess Az. between three cocks G. *Looney*? 5. Ar. a chevron G. between three horse-shoes S. *Edneacre*. 6. Ar. three bulls passant S. *Hamlyn*? 7. G. a chevron between three crosslets O. On the dexter side, *Farmor* ancient, impaling *Cockayne*. On the sinister side, the same. On the pedestal, *Farmor*, impaling Ar. on a chevron Az. between three lions rampant G. as many bugle horns O. *Perry*.

To the above description may be added from Bridges', what has been subsequently removed. 'Under the first [demi female figure] on the east side is this inscription:

MARY THE ELDEST DAUGHTER
MARRIED THE HON. S^r CHARLES
COMPTON.

under the second:

ANNE THE SECOND DAUGHTER
MARRIED TO JONATHAN COPE, ESQ.
OF RANTON ABBEY IN THE COUN-
TIE OF STAFFORD.

CATHERINE THE YOUNGEST
DAUGHTER MARRIED SIR JOHN
SHUCKBURGH OF SHUCKBURGH IN
THE COUNTIE OF WARWICK, BART.
CATHERINE MARRIED THE SE-
COND HUSBAND SIR ROGER NOR-
WICH OF BRAMPTON IN NORTH-
AMPTONSHIRE.

'Under the first of these inscriptions are these arms, *Sable, a lion rampant between three helmets Or impaling Farmor*. Under the second, on a *chevron Argent between three roses as many fleurs de lis Gules impaling Farmor*; and under the last these two shields, 1. *Sable, a chevron between three mullets Argent*, with the arms of *Utster impaling Farmor*; 2. *per pale Gules and Azure, a lion rampant Argent impaling Farmor*.'

On the rectangular tablet:

M. P. Q. S.

S^r HATTON FARMOR KN^t son of S^r GEO. FARMOR DYED 28 8^{mo}. 1640. HE HAD 2
WIVES, ELIZ. DAUGHTER OF S^r EDM. ANDERSON L^d CHIEF JUSTICE OF Y^e COMMON PLEAS.
BY HER HE HAD NO ISSUE. HIS 2^d WIFE WAS ANNA DAUGHTER TO S^r WILL. COCKAINE
LORD MAYOR OF LONDON DESCENDED FROM S^r JO^s COCKAINE AND ISABELLA DAUGHTER
OF S^r HUGH SHIRLEY INTOMBED IN ASHBURN CHURCH COM. DERBY. BY HER HE HAD
5 SONS AND 6 DAUGHTERS. S^r WILLIAM FARMOR BART^l MARRIED TO MARY RELICT OF Y^e
HON^{ble} HEN. NOWELL, HE DIED 1651. HATTON, SLAINE MAJOR OF Y^e HORSE TO
Y^e PRINCE OF WALES 8 JAN. 1644. CHARLES DIED AT 15, GEO. AN INFANT
RICH. AT 4 YEARES AND A HALFE.

DAUGHTERS, MARY WIFE TO Y^e HON^{ble} S^r CHARLES COMPTON 2^d SON TO SPENCER EARL
OF NORTHTON. SHER DYED 1660. ANNA WIFE TO JONATHAN COPE OF RANTON ABBEY
COM. STAFFORD ESQ. TO ARRABELLA & ELIZ. DYED AT 15. KATH. AN INFANT. A 2^d
KATH. WIFE TO S^r JO^s SHUCKBURGH COM. WAR. BARONET.

Below the base, on a tablet between carved trusses:

¹ Br. l. p. 233.
2 Q

CLELEY HUNDRED.

BY THE ONLY LOVE AND CHARGE OF Y^e LADY ANNA FARMER WIFE TO
Y^e ABOVE NAMED S^r HATTON FARMOR IN Y^e 22nd YEARE OF HER
WIDOWHOOD ANNO 1662 TO THE DEARE MEMORY OF HIR BELOVED
HUSBAND AND CHILDREN THIS MONUMENT WAS ERECTED.

VIII. Within the communion rails on the south side, is a fine monument of statuary marble by Chantrey, R.A. exhibiting in alto relievo a full-sized groupe emblematical of filial affection, bending over two medallions inscribed FERMOR and ANNE MARLE. The central figure represents the elder brother supporting his head with his left hand, and extending his right hand to his sister who clasps it in both hers in an agony of grief, and hides her face upon them to conceal her emotion. The younger brother is in the back ground behind the elder one. Over the entablature, are the arms and supporters of the earl of Pomfret within a scrolled circular pediment, on which is placed the coronet and crest, and the whole is finished with a semicircular termination. In the centre of the entablature:

M. S.
GEORGH FERMOR
COMITIS DE POMFRET ET BARONIS LEMPSTER
OBIIT 9 DIE JUNII ANNO SALUTIS 1785
ET ETATIS SUE 63.
ATQUE UXORIS
ANNE MARLE
COMITISSE DE POMFRET
OBIIT 24 DIE SEPTEMBRIS ANNO SALUTIS 1787
ET ETATIS SUE 51.

On the plinth:

PATRI ET MATRI DE SE OPTIME MERENTIBUS POSUIT
FILII PRIMOGENITUS
GEORGIUS COMES DE POMFRET ET BARO DE LEMPSTER
ANNO SALUTIS 1819.

IX. Within the communion rails on the north side is an elegant monument of statuary marble by Baily R.A. representing in alto relievo a full sized figure in a loosely flowing robe and slippers, seated by the side of a covered urn, and leaning on the pedestal which supports it. The arms, supporters, coronet, and crest of the earl of Pomfret are within a pediment, surmounted by a pedimental back ground of grey marble. On the plinth:

SACRED
TO THE MEMORY OF
GEORGE THIRD EARL OF POMFRET, FOURTH BARON LEMPSTER:
A DUTIFUL SON: A MOST KIND BROTHER: A FATHER TO ALL HIS FAMILY: A BENEFICENT LANDLORD:
A BELOVED MASTER: A SINCERE CHRISTIAN: WHO DIED ON THE 17th OF APRIL 1830,
AGED 62 YEARS.
THIS TRIBUTE TO THE ENDEARED REMEMBRANCE OF
HIS MANY ESTIMABLE QUALITIES, IS ERECTED BY HIS AFFECTIONATE AND GRATEFUL BROTHER AND SUCCESSOR.

Bridges^a records the two following epitaphs not now remaining.

^a Upon a gravestone in the chancel:

*Vix sepeitur Elizabetha Enyon una fida-
rum & heredum Thomæ Josephi Armitage,
cuius anime propitiatur Deus.*

In the north ile:

*Quæ Tacet in cinere Iosus salvere Joannae
Signetur Christus animam cum corpore
summus
Quæ fuit Elizabeth pariterq^a Georgiæ
prima
Ceterisq^a genita, nunc hoc sub marmore
tecta.*

BENEFACTIONS. (Vide p. 117.) THE HULCOTE OR CHURCH ESTATE. Bridges states that “^a there is a memorandum entered in the parish register to this effect. “12 Nov. 1613 *Hulcotte* and *Fowler* about 112 years ago gave to *Eston* large farms. They are now worth xxxl. *per annum*. The vicar is the chief of the fifteen feoffees.” “Who this *Fowler* was we no where find; but the *Hulcotte* here referred to, was *John Hulcote*, Esquire of the body to King *Edward IV.* and Lord of the Manor of *Hulcote*. The following paragraph in his will “which bears date in 1481, will give us some farther light into the nature of this benefaction. “Also I wolle that all my purchased landes in *Eston*, *Hulcote*, and *Calcote* afre the decesse of my wife be putt in the handes of certayne feoffees at the lest vi. in noubmr for this entent that the yearly revenues growing and coming of the same may be applied to the sustentacion of the saide parish church of *Eston* and *Hulcote*, and to the renewing and repairing of the ornaments of the same church.” Thomas Fowler, esq. was a nominal trustee for John Hulcote, esq. as appears from various deeds relating to Bradden and Hulcote⁷.

The commissioners for inquiring concerning charities report that, “the estate is in the parishes of Towcester and Greens Norton. In lieu of the land in the former parish, which was in the open fields, an allotment was awarded on the inclosure, of 99a. Or. 14 p. [in Caldecote] bounded on the west by the Daventry and Towcester turnpike road, and on the other sides by lands of the earl of Pomfret and other proprietors. Part however of the allotment adjoining

^a Br. 1, p. 292.

^a Br. 1, p. 294.

⁷ Fennor evidences.

the road was taken by Lord Pomfret about 18 years ago, with the concurrence of the feoffees, for the purpose of completing a belt or line of plantation at the road side, which was then in the course of being made; and a portion of land on the other side of the allotment, and which, as we are informed by the treasurer of the charity, was a fair equivalent, was given in exchange by Lord Pomfret; it does not however appear that any exchange or conveyance deed was executed on the occasion. The land in Greens Norton is a close of two acres or thereabouts, separated from the allotment in Towcester parish by the turnpike road⁷.

The present rental of the farm is £135 *per ann.* and there is an accumulated fund of £741. 15s. 7d.

The commissioners further report "with respect to the management of the trust and the application of the income, we find that a debt of £297 occasioned by the expences of the inclosure (and for which the allotment was mortgaged in 1765) together with the interest thereon, and a further debt of £100 to which the estate was formerly liable, were paid off out of the rents by different instalments between the years 1788 and 1797, and that out of the remainder of the rents during that period the repairs and expences of the church were defrayed; that in 1799 the balance in hand was £87. 1s. 9d. and that it was resolved by the feoffees in that year, that half of the rents of the estate should be applied immediately for the benefit of the vicar, on condition of his performing divine service both morning and afternoon, on being required so to do by the feoffees; it also appears that such part of the order as related to buying ground for and erecting a parsonage house was subsequently rescinded without being acted on, but that in pursuance of the resolution, there were paid to the vicar in April 1801, £41. 8s. 10½d.; in 1802, 1803, 1804, and 1805, the yearly sums of £58. 8s. 10d.; in 1806, £56. 2s. 5d.; in 1807, £53. 16s. 2d.; and in 1808, £40. 18s. 11d.; that subsequently to January 1808, no payments were made to the vicar, in consequence of his ceasing to reside; and in January 1816, the resolution for paying him a portion of the rents was revoked; that out of the remainder of the rents to the present time (1825) there have been paid, in addition to the annual expence of repairing the church, a salary to the parish clerk, all the churchwarden's expences, £20 to a woman for teaching a day school for all the poor children of the parish of Easton which includes the hamlet of Hulcote, £10 a year to the clerk for teaching an evening school two days in the week and a Sunday school, the expences of a meeting of the trustees, and a sum of £8 which was given by the treasurer in different portions to poor people in peculiar distress, and that the balance in the hands of the treasurer at the time of this inquiry amounted to £560. 5s. 10d.⁷" This surplus has been subsequently expended in repairs of the church and on the farm buildings.

The commissioners suggested "the income being considerably more than adequate for the original purposes of the trust, it is fit to be considered by the feoffees, whether the sanction of a court of proper authority should not be obtained for the application of the whole or some part of the surplus to other purposes⁸." In pursuance of this recommendation, the treasurer called a meeting of the feoffees, who examined and settled the accounts, and an application has been made to the court of chancery for determining the best mode of applying the surplus rents, after fulfilling the specific trusts of Hulcote's will.

THE SCHOOL above alluded to, stands in the village of Hulcote, but is closed during the present proceedings in chancery.

LEESON'S CHARITY. The sum of 20s. *per ann.* received under this charity, is bequeathed to the poor of Easton Neston and Hulcote.

HULCOTE

forms the northern division of the parish of Easton Neston.

MANORIAL HISTORY. CHOKES FEE^{*}. At the domesday survey *Tetbald* held of Gunfrid de Cioches or Chokes three virgates of land and the fourth part of a virgate. The arable land was two carucates, one in demesne, and seven villeins had the other. There were five acres of meadow. In the Saxon valuation it was rated at 12s. but was now raised to 15s. yearly².

BAIEUX FEE[†]. Honor of Berkhamsted[‡]. *Almar* in the Saxon era held an estate in "Halcote" with sac and soc, which was then rated at 8s. but was raised to 10s. yearly at the domesday survey, when it was held by *William Peverel*[§] under the bishop of Baieux. The arable land was one carucate, which he himself kept in demesne with

⁷ Charity commissioners' 14th report, p. 216 & 217.

⁸ Domesd. fo. 227 b.

* Vide GAYTON.

† Vide HARTWELL.

‡ Vide BLAKESLEY.

§ Vide DESTON, vol. 1, p. 138.

four bordars. There was a mill worth 8d. yearly, and six acres of meadow. There was a wood one furlong in length, and half a furlong wide.^s

The bishop's possessions were confiscated by William II. and the paragonomy of this portion of Hulcote became annexed to the honor of Berkhamsted. On the death of Edmund earl of Cornwall in 28 Edw. 1 (1289-90) Easton Neston and Hulcote were included in the barony of Chenduit^a, parcel of the honor of Berkhamsted, to which they still belong^b.

MANOR. In the Testa de Nevill about 27 Hen. 3 (1242) John de Hulcote was found to hold half a fee in Hulcote of the fees of the honor of Chokes^c. But the Prestons of PRESTON DEANRY had an intermediate seignory under that honor^d, and in the book of knight's fees in 24 Edw. 1 (1295) Alice widow of John de Hulcote was certified to hold the manor of Hulcote of Laurence de Preston^e. Another John de Hulcote was lord of Hulcote in 9 Edw. 2 (1315)^f; and in 12 Edw. 3 (1338) Fulk de Hulcote accounted for half a fee here of the honor of Berkhamsted. In the 30th of this reign (1356) he acknowledged before John de Worth, mayor of the staple, that he owed Richard de Preston, citizen of London, £400, which ought to be paid at the nativity of our Lord next ensuing^h. In easter following (1357) he levied a fine of the manor of Hulcote to Richard de Wydevilleⁱ, who re-settled it on the grantor and Agnes his wife in fee tailⁱ. In 6 Ric. 2 (1382) the debt to Preston not being paid, the sheriff of Northamptonshire was commanded to arrest Fulk, and make a survey of his lands. The sheriff returned, that Fulk was dead, but that at the time he acknowledged the debt he had the manor of Hulcote in the parish of Estneston near Towcester, worth £14. 13s. 6d. yearly, which was then claimed and held by John Wawe and Agnes his wife, by a demise which Richard Wideville of Grafton made to Agnes and Fulk de Hulcote, her former husband^h. Six years afterwards the manor was delivered in extent to Preston for his debt^k. "How long it continued in his hands we do not find^l; but in the fifth of King Henry IV. John Cokefield and Catherine his wife, the daughter and heir of Fulk de Hulcote, recovered it from John Wawe and his wife the late widow of the said Fulk de Hulcote."

The manor eventually reverted again to the male line of Hulcote; for in 16 Hen. 6 (1437) John Shotesbroke, esq. delivered the manor of Hulcote near Towcester which he had conjointly with others then deceased, of the feoffment of John Hulcote, senr, esq. to Richard Pek and Elizabeth his wife for life, remainder to John Hulcote, son of John Hulcote, junior, son of the said John Hulcote senior^m. This John Hulcote, the grandson, by his will in 21 Edw. 4 (1481) from which an extract has already been given under the Hulcote charityⁿ, directed that his wife should have his manors of Hulcote, Eston, and Caldecote, "his old inheritance," and also all his purchased lands in the said towns [the Hulcote charity estate] for her life, and after her decease, his said manor of Hulcote "his old inheritance" should remain to the right heirs of her cousin Richard Hulcote for ever^m. By indenture dated 18 Mar. 1 Hen. 7 (1485-6) Thomas Fowler, esq. and Robert Prudde cousin and heir of John Hulcot of Braden, esq. § released to

Richard Emson and his trustees all right in a parcel of land called "Peetescroft" in Estneston^m; and on the 31st of the same month, the following extraordinary personal treaty, offensive and defensive, was entered into. "This bill indented between Thomas Fowler squyer of the oon pte, and Richard Emson gentilman on the other pte, witnesseth that it is agreed, covenanted and accorded bytween the said pties, that for dy's loving amities that of long hath been continued between them, and in espiall of late kyndnes as well in orderyng of the pchased lands that late were John Hulcot's in the townys and felds of Estneston, Hulcote, and Caldecote in the Counte of Northt., as for the alliance between them, and for many other causes theym especially movyng, evey of the said pties pmitte and graunt eyther to other, that thei and evey of them shalbe to other counselyng, favoring, helpyng, cidyng and assistent in all mat's, quarel, and causes agaynst evey other pson and psones in that, in them, or evey of them ys toucheng, & conyng the possessions that late were the said John Hulcot's in the Counte of Northt. and ellys wher; and also in all other possessions, heritaments, and other mat's that evey pson or psones shall have to do agaynst eyther of them, or eyther of them shall have agaynst any other pson or psones, providyd allwey that no grooge be hadd, nor taken by the said Richard Emson agaynst the said Thomas Fowler for the delyve of any evidence or muniments to oon Ric. Hulcot of the Counte of Bark, or to his heires, conyng the Maner of Hulcote in Hulcote, or to any peell of hit in the Counte of Northt. this indent' notwithstanding. In witness wherof the said pties have put to their seales and sygne manuell the day and the yere above wretoun^m."

By indenture dated 3 Nov. 9 Hen. 7 (1493) between "John Dyve squier" and "Richard Emson gent." reciting that "Richard Wydeville late Erle Rivers as counsyn and heyre of Ric. Wydeville entred into the Manor of Hulcote," on a condition made between the said "Ric. Wydeville on the oon pte and oon Foulk Hulcote and Agneys his wiff on the other pte, passed upon a gyft entail made by the said Richard of the said manⁿ unto the said Foulk and Agneys and to theyr heyres of theyr bodys begoten; which condeon was Broken on the pte of theyre [the heir] of the said Foulk and Agneys, after which entre the said late Erle gaf and sold the said manⁿ w^t thappentence to the said John Dyve and to his heyres for eymore in recompence and satisfaccōn of and for the discharge of such right, title, and clayme as the said John Dyve made unto dyv'se possessions, lands, and ten'ts that the said late Erle hadde in hys possession, and for a certeyne some of money by the said John to the same late Erle beforehande paid, and for other dyv's considerations bytween them;" the said John Dyve for dyv's and many grete Deds by hym considered Den unto hym by the said Richard Emson, by [for] which Deds the said Ric. hath delv'd Rewarde of the said John of grete somes of money, in recompence and for satisfaccōn wherof, and for the same reward and deserte, and also for the some of cc lii by the said Ric. Emson paid to the said John Dyve in hand," conveyed the said manor of Hulcote to him in fee.

^a Domesd. fo. 220.

^b Esc. 28 Edw. 1, n. 44.

^c Testa Nev. fo. 115.

^d Esc. 2 Edw. 1, n. 25.

^e Cardigan MSS. Nom.

VIII. p. 89.

^f Ibid. p. 10.

^g Isaham MSS. N° 32, p. 199.

^h Esc. 6 Ric. 2, n. 98.

ⁱ Hatton. MSS.

^j Fin. Pasch. 31 Edw. 3.

^k Esc. 12 Ric. 2, n. 156, & 14 Ric. 2, n. 130.

^l Br. 1, p. 295.

^m Placit. coram Rege anno 5 Hen. IV. inter MS. Hatton.

ⁿ Fernor

evidences.

^o Vide MIDDLETON CHENDUIT, vol. 1, p. 649.

^p Vide GRAFTON REGIS.

^q Vide p. 150.

^r Vide p. 37.

HULCOTE OF HULCOTE.

From public records and Fermor evidences.

JOHN DE HULCOTE, of Hulcote, 27 Hen. 3 (1242).T.

JOHN DE HULCOTE, of Hulcote, dead 24 Edw. 1 (1295).—ALICE, widow 24 Edw. 1 (1295).

JOHN DE HULCOTE, of Hulcote, 9 Edw. 2 (1315).

FULK DE HULCOTE, of Hulcote, oc. 14 Edw. 3 (1340) & 31 Edw. 3 (1357), 6 Ric. 2 (1382) & 5 Hen. 4 (1403).
(1357), dead 6 Ric. 2 (1382), *Esc.* 6 Ric. 2, n. 98.

CATHERINE, d. & h. living 5 Hen. 4 (1403).—JOHN COKEFIELD, of Hulcote *jure ux.* 5 Hen. 4 (1403).

.....
 JOHN HULCOTE, of Hulcote, senior, esq. living 16 Hen. 6 (1437).

JOHN HULCOTE, of Hulcote, senior, esq. living to them: 5 (1757).

JOHN HULCOTE, of Hulcote, junior, esq. living 16 Hen. 6 (1497). —.....
 JOHN HULCOTE, of Hulcote & Braden, esq. — ALICE, d. & h. of John Houghton, of Ellesborough, co. Bucks, ALICE; mar. Pradde.
 quire of the body to K. Edw. IV. Sheriff of co. North. 12 Edw. 4, M.P. for co. North. 17 Edw. 4, living 22 Edw. 4 (1482).
 co. s. p. 23 Edw. 4 (1482), Esc. 6 Hen. 7, n. 99. living 22 Edw. 4 (1482).

RICHARD HULCOTE, of co. Berks, esq. living 21 Edw. 4 (1481) & 17 Hen. 7 (1502).

ROBERT PRUDDE, cou. & h. of John Hulcote, esq. living 1 Hen. 7, (1485-6) & 2 Hen. 7 (1487). JOHN PRUDDE, living 2 Hen. 7 (1487). ROBERT HULCOTE, esq. released Hulcote 17 Hen. 7 (1502).

The manor of Hulcote was included in the conveyance from *Thomas Empson*, esq. in 1527 *; and has subsequently accompanied *EASTON NESTON*, down to *George-William-Richard* 5th and present earl of Pomfret, a minor.

THE MANOR HOUSE stood in a field still called Hall close.

THE VILLAGE consists of between twenty and thirty houses near the north entrance to the park. The cottages were neatly rebuilt by George the third earl.

SEWARDSLEY.

MORETON FEE. HONOR OF BERKHAMSTED. Sewardsey, as it is written in early records, and in later times corrupted into Shewelsley, Shallowe, Sewsley, and Shewley—which last is the modern pronunciation of the name. There was a north-east division of the parish of Easton Newton, and is literally the *ley* or field of Seward; there can therefore be no hesitation in identifying it with the estate in "Aldeneston" which was the Saxon freehold of *Seward* rated at 20s. yearly, but doubled in value at the domesday survey, when it was held by *Ormar* under the earl of Moreton. It contained one hide and three virgates. The arable land was four carucates, of which two were in demesne with three servants; and six villains and five bordars had the remaining two. There was a mill worth 8s. yearly; and three acres each of meadow and underwood¹⁰.

THE PRIORY.

Richard de Lestre, or del Eire, lord of Easton Neston in the reign of Henry II. founded a priory here of the Cistercian order, dedicated to the virgin Mary, but the original endowment is not known. Geoffrey de Leifermater in the time of Henry II. or Richard, gave to the nuns of Sewardsey his wood in Middleton (Milton Malsor) and Collingtree with the land on which it stood, and if he and his heirs were not able to warrant it to them, he gave them in exchange other lands in Middleton or Collingtree to the same value, and if they could not be warranted, then other lands elsewhere in England to the same value &c. Geoffrey de Lisle gave them a small donation in Heymundeote or Heathenote, near that half acre which Ibert de Pavely gave with Ivretta his daughter's, probably on her taking the veil. Simon de Pinkeney son of Henry de Pinkeney of Morton Pinkeney § in the time of Henry III. granted to the monks of Canons Ashby 4s. yearly rent out of a virgate there, in exchange for 4s. yearly rent there which they

ⁿ Domesd. fo. 224.

* Reg. Will. Alawick, Ep. Line.

* *Mad. Formulare*, p. vii.

¶ Harl. MSS. 2044, fo. 123.

* Vide p. 141.

† Vide Bugbrook, vol. 1, p. 120.

‡ Vide BLAKESLEY, p. 11.

§ Vide p. 107.

received from the nuns of Swardsley^r; and by another deed, granted or released to the nuns this yearly payment which they ought to render him for four virgates of land in Ashby which his grandfather Robert de Pinkney gave, with William de St. John for the manor of Easton Neston^s, the advowson of which had been previously given to the nuns by sir Geoffrey de Braden^t.

Notwithstanding these donations, the revenues of this nunnery had become so impoverished in 1459 (23 Hen. 6) as to be inadequate to the maintenance of the establishment and the repairs of the house, and at the petition of the patron sir Thomas Green, the bishop of Lincoln appropriated Swardsley to the abbey of St. Mary de la Pré near Northampton^t. If, however, it was ever united to that monastery, it recovered its independence; though a little before the dissolution there were only four nuns here^s.

This priory does not occur in the ecclesiastical taxations of 1254 (38 Hen. 3) and 1291 (20 Edw. 1).

VALOR ECCLESIASTICUS, TEMP. HEN. VIII.

[Abstract of Return 26 Hen. 8 (1535). First Fruits Office.]

PRESTON DECANAT^r

SEWESLEY PRIORAT^r

VALET IN

COM. NORTH'MPTON^r

Scit' p'orat' cū terr' dnical.

Exit' et pñc' omni' ortoz gardinoz boscoz
terr' prat' pasc' pastur' ac alioz terr'
dnicaliu jacen' & existenc' tñm infra
scit' dict' p'orat' q'm ex^s in man' &
occupacōn' ipsius p'orisse & convent'
ac nūq'm pantea arrentat' & modo p
vis' inquis' & scrutaōn' t'm comis-
sionar' q'm xij^{ss} homin' jurat' valuat'
& taxat' p annū ad sumā

£. s. d.
c

DEDUCT^r IN

SOLUC' PENC^r & SINOD^r

Annual' penc' solut' epō } £. s. d.
Lincoln' annuatim } x
Consul' annual' penc' solut' }
eidm epō ad collegiū suū } vi viij } £. s. d.
de Lincoln annuatim } xxvij iij
Sinodal' & pcur' solut' }
archid' North'mpton } x viij
Annuatim & sic in to^o p annū

TEMPORAL^r

Reddit' & firm' infra divs' maner' villas
& hamelett' ibm p annū videlt

In Sewesley - - - £. s. d.
Harleston - - - xl
Hardington - - - x viij
Heythecote - - - ij
Tyffeld - - - x
Shyttylhangar - - - iij
Aldington - - - xxx iij } £. s. d.
Southnewton - - - ij } vi xvij x
(Oxon) - - - xii
& Whitfield - - - xii
North'mpton - - - xxij viij
in to^o p am
& Stokebruarne - - - v

SP'UAL^r

Dccim' & oblatiōibz ac al' pñc' rectorie
de Estneston p annū - - - } vi xij iij

£. s. d.
xviij xi ij
D' quibz

REDDIT' RESOLUT^r

Dño Regi solut' p man'
ballivoz North'mpton
excut' de cert' teit'
ibm annuatim } xii
John Longvill milit' &
Edmōdo Knyghtley so-
lut' ut in pñc' unū lib' } ij
pipis annuatim - - -
& dño de Duston p redd'
voc' Pevell Fee solut' } xij
annuatim - - -
& sic in to^o p annū

STIPEND' CAPELLAN^r

Stipend' un^o Capellan' divina minis-
trant' & celebrant' in ecclia diet'
p'ort' coram p'oriss' & monial' pñcis } iij xij iij
annuat' - - - }
£. s. d.
vi iij viij

Et reman' ultra - - - £. s. d.
Inde p x^{ms} - - - - xij vi viij
- - - - - xxij viij

COMPUT' MINISTRORUM DOMINI REGIS, TEMP. HEN. VIII.

[Abstract of Roll 28 Hen. 8. Augmentation Office.]

SEWARDSELEY SUPER PRIORAT^r.

COM. NORTH'TON.

Sewardseley et alibi Reddit' assis' - - i vij Hedyngcote Redd' ten' ad vol' - - x
Northampton vill' Redd' ten' ad vol' - - xiv viij Tyzhefeld Firma ten' et pastur' - - iij
Shyttehangar Redd' ten' ad vol' - - i x iij Sewardseley Firma sit' priorat' cum
Stokemere Redd' ten' ad vol' - - v terr' &c. - - v ij vj
Southnewton(Oxon) Redd' ten' ad vol' - - xii Etneston Firma rector' - - vi xij iij
Nunwood alias Henwood vendic' base - - ij

^s Canons Ashby cartulary, fo. 41.

^t Mon. Ang. 1, p. 406.

^r Reg. Joh. Chedworth, Ep. Lin.

^s Tanner's Notitia.

⁺ Vide p. 139.

⁺ Vide p. 1.

PRIORESSES. *Felicia*, prioress of Swardsley by an undated deed exchanged lands in Canons Ashby with the monks there^a.

Florentia, one of the sisterhood, was chosen prioress with the consent of sir *Robert de Paveli* their patron, between 1234 and 1254^b.

Juliana, with the consent of the convent granted to Adam prior of Canons Ashby—who presided there between 1253 and 1261—licence to inclose a spring called Norwell in Canons Ashby, and make a watercourse from it to the monastery through their land^c.

Margaret de Lodbroke was nominated by the convent in 1349, but the election was annulled by the bishop of Lincoln^d.

Alice Basing resigned the office in 1439^e, and

Agnes Drakelow was chosen prioress in her stead^f.

Joan Bakeby, prioress of the house or monastery of the blessed Mary of Swardsley, in 1483 conveyed to Richard Emson, gent. in fee a messuage with close in Easton Neston, at the reserved rent of 4s. yearly^g.

Eleanor Scarsbrig was appointed prioress in 1525 on the nomination of the bishop of Lincoln^h. After presiding five years, she died, and the convent elected

Agnes Carter, but the election was declared void by the bishop of Lincoln, on the ground that she was *mulier corrupta, apostata, & unius prolis mater & eo preterito ad hujusmodi officium indigna*ⁱ.

Elizabeth Cambell was the last prioress^d.



"A very imperfect impression of the COMMON SEAL of this nunnery remains attached to a charter of the reign of Edward the second in the British Museum^e. It represents the Virgin Mary crowned, seated in a chair, the arms of which are formed by dragons' heads. Her hands are elevated; in her left hand she holds a lily; and the Infant Jesus is in her lap; the legend is very imperfect."

NO REGISTER is extant; but in Nasmith's edition of Tanner's *Notitia* are a few references to records and other authorities relating to this priory.

THE site and demesnes of the late priory of Swardsley were granted to Richard Farmor, esq. on the restitution of his estates in 4 Edw. 6 (1550)^f; and from him have lineally descended to *George-William-Richard* the present and 5th earl of Pomfret, a minor.

THE PRIORY was subsequently fitted up for a second residence of the family. On the marriage of George Farmor, esq. with Mary Curson in 1570, sir John Farmor his father covenants to provide "suffieyent and convenyent meate, drynk, lodgyng, and fyer for theym the said George and Marye, and for one gentilwoman, two men servants, and one mayde s^vant, w^t stablerometh and horsemeat for foure of their geldyngs for and during the space of foure yeres next ensuyng after the tyme of the solempnyzacon of the said mariage, yf the said George and Marye shalbe contentyd to make their abode and contynance" in his mansion house at Estneston or some other convenient house in the counties of Northampton or Oxford; and if they "shall myslyk w^t suche fyndyng as ys aforesaid," or if he "kepe not ordinary howse and howscholld," then he shall pay them £10 yearly; and further covenants that before the expiration of the said four years, he will "not only well and suffieyently repeire, make upp, and amend, or cause to be suffieyently repeired, made upp, and amendyd the mano^r or chief mancon howse of Sewisley, alias Shewisley alias Shewardsley, and all the howses, edifices, and buyldyngs thereunto belongyng, and all the mounides, hedges, and dyches in and about the same," and deliver the same to the said George and Mary, or either of them then living, but shall also pay to them "to their own use towards the furnyshyng, stockyng, and storyng of the said howse and grounds, the some of one hundrethe pounds of lawfull English money &c." It has long since degenerated into a common farm house, but a few vestiges of antiquity are still visible in the kitchen.

^a Canons Ashby cartulary, fo. 12.

^b Ep. Line.
charters, XI. 41.

^c Farmor evidences.

^d Pat. 29 Mar. 4 Edw. 6, p. 9.

^e Reg. Rob. Grosthead, Ep. Line.

^f Reg. Joh. Longland, Ep. Line.

^g Farmor evidences.

^h Reg. Joh. Gynwell, Ep. Line.

ⁱ Cole's MSS. vol. 27, & Br. Willia's Abbies.

^j Reg. Will. Alwrick,

^k Cotton

FURTHO

is written in domesday Forho, and in later records Furtho or Fortho. The lordship contains about 630 acres, of which about 300 acres were inclosed under the Cosgrave act of parliament in 7 Geo. 3 (1767) by the name of the "Furtho tithing," and have by mistake been included in the contents of that parish. The principal proprietors are the trustees of the Arnold Charity who have about 285 acres, and the rector, who has in right of his church nearly 100 acres. It is street or Chester road, which divides it from Passenham. The soil is principally a cold white clay. More than half the lordship is in permanent pasture.

MANORIAL HISTORY. MORETON FEE*. The three Saxon estates of which this lordship was composed, were all united under the *earl of Moreton*; but after the dismemberment of the Moreton fee the paramourney was distributed amongst the honors of Berkhamsted, Leicester, and Aquila.

HONOR OF BERKHAMSTED†. *Godenan* and *Godeva*, two Saxon proprietors, had a freehold in "Forho" then rated at 10s. yearly, but trebled in value at the domesday survey, when it was held by *Ralph* under the earl of Moreton. It contained two hides. The arable land was six carucates; one of which was in demesne with four servants; another in the occupation of two villeins and three bordars; the remaining four being waste, or unaccounted for. There were eight acres of meadow. *Ralph*, the mesne lord, was ancestor of the Chenduits of MIDDLETON CHENDUIT‡; and accordingly Furtho was included in the barony of Chenduit, parcel of the honor of Berkhamsted, on the inquisition after the death of Edmund earl of Cornwall in 28 Edw. 1 (1299)^b; but it must be confessed, this tenure does not exactly harmonise with the hydarium of Hen. 2, in which *Walter* is certified to hold two hides—corresponding with the domesday entry of this estate—of the fee of Richard son of William; *William Gernet* seven small virgates of the fee of *Berkhamsted*; and the earl of *Leicester* three small virgates^c.

HONOR OF LEICESTER§. HONOR OF AQUILA||. Another joint freehold in "Forho" was the property of *Atcin* and *Oaulf* prior to the Norman era, and was rated also at 10s. yearly, but trebled in value at the domesday survey, when it was held by *William* under the earl of Moreton. It contained half a hide, and four parts of half a hide. The arable land was three carucates; of which one was in demesne; two bordars had half an one; and the remaining one and a half was waste or unaccounted for. There were six acres of meadow^d.

The third Saxon portion of "Forho" was the freehold of *Godwin*, and was rated also at 10s. but raised to 60s. yearly at the domesday survey, though consisting only of nine parts of one hide. The arable land was two carucates; one of which was in the occupation of one villein and three bordars; the other waste, or unaccounted for.

This estate, like the preceding one, was held under the earl of Moreton by *William*^e, the ancestor of the baronial families of *Keynes*^f. On the partition between the brothers, one of these estates appears to have been assigned to *Keynes* of *GRETWORTH*, as Furtho is found associated with the five fees held by sir Thomas Leukenore—the representative of this line of *Keynes*^g—under Edmund late earl of Lancaster and Leicester in 25 Edw. 1 (1297)^h.

The other estate became annexed to the honor of Aquila; and of the three fees of *that* honor the small fees of Moreton, for which sir William de Montacute†† rendered seutage about 19 Hen. 3 (1235) one fee was in Furthoⁱ.

MANOR. *Walter* who had two hides here in the reign of Henry II. g was, I presume, progenitor of the *Walter de Furtho* who about 25 Hen. 3 (1240) held one small fee here of the honor of Aquila^k. It has been already shewn that the possessions of the *Spigurnells*, lords of COSGRAVE, extended into Furtho‡‡; and on the death of sir Henry Spigurnell in 2 Edw. 3 (1328) he was found to hold certain lands in Cosgrave and Furtho—not improbably constituting what was termed prior to the inclosure of Cosgrave "the Furtho tithing"—of *Henry de Furtho*, lord of Furtho, by service of 12d. yearly and suit at his court of Furtho, and at the hundred court of Cleley every three weeks^l. This Henry de Furtho settled the manors of Weston and Furtho on his son *William de Furtho* and Margaret his wife, daughter of William de Harvedon^m, who in 12 Edw. 3 (1338) levied a fine of this manorⁿ. Their successors^o were generally named *William de Furtho* till the thirty-fifth year of Henry VI. at which time^p *William* the son of *William Furtho* dying without issue male, left all his goods and chattels in the Manor of *Furtho* to Alice his only daughter; but the Manor itself^q, being intailed, descended to *Thomas Furtho*, Esq. his brother. The male line terminated in *Edward*

* Domesd. fo. 223.

^b Eccl. 28 Edw. 1, n. 44.

^c Cotton MSS. Vesp. E. xxi. fo. 96.

^d Domesd. fo. 273b.

^e Eccl. 25

Edw. 1, n. 51.

^f Test. Nev. fo. 129.

^g Cotton MSS. Vesp. E. xxi. fo. 96.

^h Test. Nev. fo. 109 & 165.

ⁱ Eccl. 2 Edw. 3, n. 29.

^j Ex chartis Val. Knightley mill. 1614.

^k Hutton MSS. Fin. 12 Hen. 3.

^l Br. 1, p. 297.

^m Reg. Linc. ab anno 1349 ad ann. 1441.

ⁿ Ibid. 'Reg. Luffham in Cur. Pwrog. Qu. 9.'

^o Ibid. 'Rot. Fin. anno 13 Edw. 3, inter MSS. Hutton.'

^p Vide BUGROOKE, vol. 1, p. 130.

^q Vide BLAKESLEY, p. 21.

^r Vide vol. 1, p. 648.

^s Vide DUFFORD, vol. 1, p. 349.

^t Vide PRESTON CAPES, vol. 1, p. 431.

^u Vide DUFFORD, vol. 1, p. 350 & 353.

^v Vide vol. 1, p. 508.

^w Vide PRESTON

CAPES, 1, p. 432.

^x Vide p. 130.

Furtho, esq. the fifth in lineal descent from Thomas, who died in 1621 (19 Jac.) leaving two sisters and coheirresses *Anne*, wife of Anthony Stanton of Great Brickhill in Buckinghamshire, esq. and *Nightingale*, wife of Samuel Mann sell of Cosgrave, esq. between whom in Jan. 1622-3 (20 Jac.) "a free and voluntary partition was made by the advice of friends indifferently nomenclated," when the manor, manor house, and advowson of Furtho with lands there and in other places were allotted to Anthony Stanton, esq. and Ann his wife, and his capital messuage or mansion at Cosgrave with lands there and in other places to Samuel Maunsell, esq. and Nightingale his wife P.

FURTHO OF FURTHO.

From visitations, public records, and Mansel evidences.

Arms. Gules, a lion rampant, ducally crowned Or; "but neither proved nor allowed."

WALTER DE FURTHO, of Furtho temp. Hen. 2
 Sir WILLIAM FURTHO, of Furtho 10 Hen. 3 (1226)
 WALTER DE FURTHO, of Furtho 25 Hen. 3 (1240) & 4 Edw. 1 (1276)
 WALTER DE FURTHO, of Furtho 24 Edw. 1 (1295)
 HENRY DE FURTHO, of Furtho 2 Edw. 3 (1329) & 12 Edw. 3 (1338) SARAH
 WILLIAM DE FURTHO, of Furtho 12 Edw. 3 (1339) MARGARET, d. of William de Harwedon, of Plumpton 12 Edw. 3 (1339).
 HENRY DE FURTHO, of Furtho 20 Edw. 3 (1346). WILLIAM DE FURTHO, of Furtho 35 Edw. 3 (1361)
 WILLIAM FURTHO, of Furtho, esq. 17 Hen. 6 (1439)
 1. WILLIAM FURTHO, of Furtho, esq. 14 Hen. 7 (1494-5) 2. THOMAS FURTHO, of Furtho, esq. 14 Hen. 7 (1494-5) 3. MARGARET, d. of ob. 11 Mar. 1502 FLEM-
 esq. ob. 13 Hen. 6 (1457). of Brampton esq. Furtho, esq. 14 Hen. 7 (1494-5) 4. THOMAS BROOKESBY, esq.
 ALICE, d. & h. 35 Hen. 6 (1457). WILLIAM FURTHO, of Furtho, esq. 26, Esq. CATHERINE, d. of sir William Hartwell, h. THOMAS BROOKESBY, esq.
 15 Hen. 7, ob. 16 Nov. 20 Hen. 7, (1504) Esq. of Preston Deanery, living 2 Edw. 6 23 Hen. 7 (1509).
 (1457), ob. s. p. 20 Hen. 7, n. 91. (1446).

1. ELIZABETH, ANTHONY FURTHO, of Furtho, esq. 2 w. URSULA, d. of THOMAS FUR. JAMES FUR. ELIZABETH 20 Hen. 7
 d. & h. of esq. 29, Esq. 20 Hen. 7, ob. Anthony Brookesby, THO 20 Hen. 7 1504.
 Stansby of co. 24 Nov. 1 Eliz. (1570) Esq. of co. Leic. esq. ob. FURTHO 20 Hen. 7 (1504).
 Leic. 1 Eliz. p. 3, n. 130. s. p. (1504).

1. THOMAS FURTHO, of Furtho, esq. ob. 20 Aug. 18 Jac. ELIZABETH, d. of George Gascoigne, 2. GEORGE 3. THOMAS FURTHO, 4. THOMAS FUR.
 1 Eliz. liv. 13 Eliz. (1570). Edward Watson, of Furtho, of Furtho, London. ALICE; w. of Edward Smith, ANNE; w. of Henry ELLEN; w. of George
 Rockingham, esq. Great, of Cosgrave, Sewell, of co. Bedf.
 gent.

EDWARD FURTHO, of Furtho, esq. ob. 20 Aug. 18 Jac. ELIZABETH, d. of George Gascoigne, 2. GEORGE 3. THOMAS FURTHO, 4. THOMAS FUR.
 (1620) Esq. 19 Jac. p. 1, n. 39. of co. Hunts, esq. FURTHO, ob. inf. THO, ob. s. p.

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"By inquisition taken in the Court of Wards in the fifteenth year of Charles I. it appears that the Lordship of Furtho with the advowson of the church, were in the hands of Sir Robert Banastre of Passenham."

Edmund Arnold of Doctors Commons, London, esq. an eminent civilian, born at Nether Heyford, purchased Furtho with the fruits of his professional industry, and died without issue in 1676. By his will dated 6 May 1675 after bequeathing numerous small legacies, he adds, "being determined by the assistance of God to settle for the future my manor of 'Furthoe' with all the lands, woods, members, and appurtenances thereof, after the decease of me and my wife, to charitable uses, in which case I must be beholden to friends to be my feoffices, and having had good experience of the justness and prudence of the right worshipful sir Leolin Jenkins K^t LL.D. (judge of the admiralty and prerogative courts) in such cases, and of his particular kindness to myself, I beg of him to be one of them;" and then proceeds to devise the said manor with all his lands there (saving the advowson of the rectory) and elsewhere in the counties of Northampton and Bucks to the said sir Leolin, his kinsman William Dyer of Tottenham High Cross, Middlesex, esq. Matthew Johnson of the Middle Temple, London, esq. and Thomas Bedford of Doctors' Commons, gent. in fee, on trust to pay £10 yearly for and towards putting out poor children apprentices to some honest trades, out of and from the town of Nether Heyford, and towards setting them up as they come out of their times, and £25 yearly for and towards the relief of poor people of the said town; £20 yearly for putting out apprentices from, and £5 to the poor of St. Giles in Northampton where he began his clerkship; £5 yearly for putting out an apprentice or apprentices from Upper Heyford and towards setting them up; £5 yearly for putting out an apprentice or apprentices from Stowe, viz. Great and Little Stowe, and towards setting them up; £5 yearly for putting out an apprentice or apprentices from Wedon Beck, where he went to school, and towards setting them up; £20 yearly for the maintenance of poor scholars in Merton college, Oxford (to which he was a tenant for ground in London) to be distributed at the discretion of the warden and fellows; £20 yearly towards the support and maintenance of an orthodox minister who shall be licensed by, and answerable to his ordinary, in point of conformity, to read divine service at least on Sundays forenoon and afternoon, and to perform all other divine offices in one of the churches or chapels of St. Mary Stratford, and to be elected by twelve of the substantialist inhabitant housekeepers there, with the assistance and advice of the rectors or ministers of Furthoe, Cosgrave, Passenham, and Calverton, and none to have voice in the said election but such as are conformable to the orders of the church, and frequenters of the same; and he wills that such poor as shall participate in his aforesaid legacies be also conformable and frequenters of their church, unless they be impotent and unable so to do; £10 yearly to the vicar or curate of Potterspury towards the

¹ Mansel evidences.

² Br. 1, p. 297, 'MS. Bibl. Harl. 39 A. 20.
28

increase of his poor stipend or means, hoping that the impropiator there will take it into his consideration how far he is concerned with the cure of the souls there and augment that pitiful stipend; such curate or vicar to be orthodox and conformable and of good life and conversation.

The testator's widow died in Jan. 1691-2, and the will was contested by the heir at law, Thomas Arnold. By a decree of the court of chancery 3 July 6 Will. & Mar. (1694) it was declared that it appeared to be the testator's intent, by his will, to dispose of the manor and premises wholly to charitable uses, and that the words of the will were sufficient to carry the whole estate to that purpose, and it was decreed that the rents and profits thereof should from time to time be applied for charitable uses; but as to the disposal of the surplus beyond the specific bequests the consideration thereof was deferred; and it does not appear that any further proceedings were taken in the suit, or that any directions were subsequently obtained.

In the administration of the charity, it has been the practice of the trustees to pay the several specific annual sums mentioned in the will, and also to pay out of the surplus rents a proportionate advance, by way of addition, to each branch of the charity, excepting the stipends to the ministers of Stony Stratford and Potterspury, the payments to whom are continued at the same rate as mentioned in the will. By means of the addition made to the several charities which have been thus increased, they are at present four times the original amount. The commissioners for inquiring into charities observe, "it appears to us that a proportionate addition to the respective charities mentioned in the will, is such an application of the surplus rents as would, most probably, be directed or confirmed by a court of Equity; but, as some doubt may possibly be entertained, whether the ministers at Stony Stratford and Potterspury are not also entitled to the benefit of a rateable advance of their stipends, we have recommended the trustees to take the opinion of counsel upon that point for their guidance."

The boys apprenticed under the charity are chosen on the recommendation of the parish officers of the respective places to which they belong. Apprentices are put out as opportunities occur and the funds allow, and the money applicable to those purposes remains in the hands of the treasurer until demanded.

The sums of money to be distributed among the poor are paid to the parish officers of the respective places, or to some other persons to whom the trustees confide the distribution, and an account is rendered to the trustees of the manner in which the money is disposed of.

The present trustees are, Thomas Reeve Thornton, esq. of Brockhall, the rev. John Lloyd Crawley the elder, rector of Nether Heyford, the rev. George Butler, rector of Gayton, D.D., the rev. Philip Thornton, rector of Brockhall, the rev. James Harwood Harrison, rector of Bugbrook, the rev. William Henry Clarke, rector of Cold Higham, the rev. Walter John Kerich, rector of Paulerspury, the rev. William Thornton, of Brockhall, the rev. John Lloyd Crawley the younger, of Nether Heyford, and Henry Crawley, esq. of Balliol college, Oxford.

A court leet and court baron are occasionally held for this manor.

THE HOSPITAL OF ST. JOHN OF JERUSALEM had a rent charge of 31s. 6d. yearly out of a messuage and four virgates of land in Fortho^a. In 3 Edw. 3 (1329) the prior, in plea to a writ of quo warranto, substantiated his claim to view of frank pledge twice a year in Fortho of his tenants there and in Covesgrave, Shitelhanger, and Stoke Bruer^b; but in 8 Hen. 4, Fortho was a member of the court held at Stony Stratford^c.

GRESTEIN ABBEY in Normandy had of the gift of Theodoric de Forhow or Fortho a virgate of land in Covesgrave, and a moiety of his tithes of Forhou [Furtho] by permission of his lord William, quit of all service^d; which donation in the confirmation charter of Edward II. is described as two virgates with pertinencies in Fortho, and a moiety of the tithes of Fortho^e.

FURTHO as a member of the honor of Berkhamsted does suit to the court at Blakesley; and as a member of the honor of Grafton, to the court at Potterspury.

There is no VILLAGE, the manor house, now occupied with the farm, being the only house in the parish, except two in Old Stratford. The village is supposed to have been depopulated partly through the inclosure by Edward Furtho, esq. in the time of James I., and partly by the adoption of a new line for the road from Northampton to London, which previously passed through it. By the census of 1801, Furtho contained 2 houses and 9 inhabitants; by that of 1811, 3 houses and 16 inhabitants; by that of 1821, 2 houses and 12 inhabitants; and by that of 1831, 3 houses and 16 inhabitants. There are no returns of the land tax and property tax for Furtho, and they are probably included under Cosgrave. The poor rates for the year ending Easter 1832 raised £14. 8s. 3½d. at 6d. in the £.

THE ADVOWSON accompanied the manor down to Edmund Arnold, esq. who by will in 1675 devised it to the principal fellows, and scholars of Jesus college in Oxford. On the presentation of the rev. N. P. Dobree in 1789 it was consolidated with the rectory of Wigginton in Oxfordshire.

THE RECTORY is in the deanry of Preston. It is omitted in the taxation of 1254 (38 Hen. 3); but in that of 1291 (20 Edw. 1) is rated at 2 marks (£1. 6s. 8d.) *per ann.*^a; and in the ecclesiastical survey of 1535 (26 Hen. 8) at £7. 3s. 0d. *per ann.* deducting 3s. for synodals and procurations to the archdeacon of Northampton^b. The parliamentary commissioners in 1655 certified it to be a parsonage presentative worth £40 *per ann.* in the patronage of William lord Maynard; and that Nicholas Ryall the incumbent received the profits and supplied the cure^c. The rectory now con-

^a Charity commissioners' 14th report, p. 316 to 318.

^b *Ibid.* p. 318.

^c Rot. penes H. H. H. Hungerford arm.

^d Quo Warr. 3 Edw. 3.

^e Rot. penes H. H. H. Hungerford arm.

^f Mon. Ang. 2, p. 382.

^g *Ibid.* p. 384.

^h Augm. Off.

ⁱ Lambeth MSS., vol. 20.

sists of 96a. Or. 29p. of land allotted by the commissioners for inclosing Cosgrave, in lieu of the glebe lands and of all the tithes of Furtho tithing; and a modus or composition of £20. 7s. 6d. yearly for the Arnold estate.

RECTORS. *Aubrey de Pirie*, subdeacon, by sir William de Furtho and Ralph de Chedneto, 1226.

Nicholas.

Henry de Furtho, son of Walter, subdeacon, 18 Sept. 1276.

William Gobioun de Jerdele [Yardley] clerk, by Henry de Furtho, 20 Oct. 1329.

Henry de Furtho, clerk, 16 Nov. 1344.

John de Furtho, priest, by William de Furtho, 8 Jan. 1349.

John Dykes. He has been previously noticed under Bugbrook.

John de Leyre, priest, 14 Aug. 1364.

John Martyn de Brynton, priest, 8 Nov. 1367. He exchanged for the rectory of Oakley Parva with

Sir William Etyndon, 31 July 1399.

Thomas Beauchamp, priest, 31 Jan. 1400.

William West, chaplain, 25 Oct. 1401. He was also rector of Thenford.

Thomas Bromecote. He was vicar of St. Michael's, Northampton, 1404.

William Baker, priest, 11 July 1441.

Sir John Greene, priest, by Thomas Furtho, esq. 28 Oct. 1463.

Sir Roger Neseport, priest, 6 Oct. 1467.

Sir William Twyecrosse, 18 Nov. 1471.

Sir Robert Nulton, priest, 6 July 1472.

Sir John Jepson or *Gibson*, priest, 8 Mar. 1478.

Sir John Dyeet, chaplain, by Thomas Brookesby in right of his wife Catherine, late wife of William Furtho, 16 Jan. 1507-8.

Sir Edward Woodward, chaplain, 27 April 1512.

Sir Ottwell Jepson, chaplain, 8 Nov. 1513.

Sir Thomas Ball, clerk, 26 Jan. 1526.

Robert Wade, clerk, by Catherine Furtho, widow, 7 May

1548. He was deprived for negligence and default in not paying the king's subsidy, and

Edward Bune was instituted 31 July 1552, on the presentation of the king. He was also rector of Grafton Regis.

John Suckling, vicar of Potterspury from 1543 to 1555. On his decease

Thomas Fulwell was presented by Anthony Furtho, esq. and inst. 5 Oct. 1557. He was rector of Milton Malsor from 1545 to 1583, and vicar of Potterspury 1555 to 1568. On his resignation

Christopher Emerson, already noticed under Cosgrave, was presented by Thomas Furtho, esq. and inst. 6 Sept. 1561. He died in 1592-3, and the next recorded incumbent, but without date, is

Nicholas Ryall, on whose decease, a second

Nicholas Ryall, was presented by sir Robert Banastre, and inst. 20 Jan. 1631-2.

John Mansell, of Clare hall, Camb. LL.B. of whom a brief notice will be found under Cosgrave, was nominated by Edmund Arnold, esq. and inst. 17 June 1673 on the presentation of the principal and fellows of Jesus college, Oxford. His resignation introduced

Lucas Williams, who was inst. 4 Dec. 1697.

Francis Payne, A.M. was inst. 10 July 1730, on the decease of the last incumbent. He resigned, and his successor

Anthony Apperley, A.M. was inst. 20 Sept. 1739; on whose resignation

James Bandinel, A.M. 1758, B.D. 1767, D.D. 1777, was inst. 6 Sept. 1775. His cession introduced

Nicholas Peter Dobree, D.D. who was presented by the principal and fellows of Jesus college, Oxford, to the consolidated rectories of Furtho and Wigginton, and inst. 20 Aug. 1789. He has also a benefice in the island of Guernsey.

THE REGISTERS commence in 1696.

THE CHURCH, dedicated to St. Bartholomew, was rebuilt by Edward Furtho, esq. in 1620, and consists of a low broad tower containing only one small bell, nave, and chancel. The tower is 15ft. long by 17ft. 10in. wide; the nave 25ft. by 18ft.; and the chancel 24ft. 2in. by 14ft. 5in. The interior is paved with stone and pewed. A plain octagonal font faces the south entrance. The tower, nave, and chancel are of one pace; the nave communicates with each through an open arch.

MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS.

CHANCEL. On the north side under a low circular arch is a marble slab on which were the brass figures about 2ft. long, of a man between his two wives, and a shield at each corner; probably intended for Anthony Furtho, esq. and removed from the old church.

On a marble slab on the south side:

Hic jacet
EDMUNDUS ARNOLD Aruiger
quondam Dominus (sub Deo)
Hujus Manerii, qui obiit
27 Martii 1676.

GRAFTON

has been unvaried in its orthography, except in domesday where it is written *Grastone*, as also under Grafton in Warwickshire, "the *r* being mistaken for an *g*," according to Dugdale, "for out of doubt it was originally both written and called *Grastone* or *Gractone*, having its appellation from Bushes, which in our old English were called *Greves*," Grafton was inclosed by act of parliament 1 Geo. 2 (1727) and contains with the portion of Grafton park within the parish about 1340 acres; of which about 990 acres belong to George-Henry 4th duke of Grafton, K.G. lord of the manor, and about 340 acres to sir John Mordaunt of Walton in Warwickshire, bart. M.P. Its boundaries are formed by Paulerspury and Alderton on the north; by the river Tove on the north-east and east, which divides it from Stoke Bruern and Ashton, and Hanslope in Buckinghamshire; by Yardley Gobion and Potterspury on the south; and by the latter parish and Paulerspury on the west. The soil varies from clay to grey loam on lime stone. More than three fourths of the lordship is in permanent pasture. The Grand Junction canal passes through it.

MANORIAL HISTORY. MORETON FEE*. The vill of *Grastone* was the Saxon freehold of *Godwin* who had lands also in Marston^b, Bowden (Parva), Helmdon, Cosgrave^c, Furtho^d, and Wellingborough^e, in this county, and is probably the same Godwin who was an extensive proprietor in various other counties. At the domesday survey this estate was held by *William* under the earl of Moreton, and consisted of no more than four parts of one hide. The arable land was two carucates; one of which was in demesne with one bordar; the other waste, or unaccounted for. There were eleven acres of meadow; and twenty acres of wood. In Godwin's time it was valued at only 3s. yearly, though at the Norman survey it had advanced by a rapid process of improvement which baffles conjecture, to 26s. yearly^f. Its primitive insignificance presents a still more striking contrast to its subsequent importance as the patrimony of a succession of noble families, the scene of interesting historical incidents, the residence of royalty, the head of a royal honor, and the title of a dukedom.

MANOR. The abbey of *Grestein* situated near the mouth of the river Seine in Normandy was founded in 1040 by Harlewin de Conteville, father of Robert earl of Moreton and Odo bishop of Bayeux, and step-father of William the Norman conqueror*, after whose accession to the English throne its revenues were greatly enhanced by valuable benefactions in various parts of the kingdom. The Conqueror himself gave Penton^g in Hampshire. The earl of Moreton, out of the immense estate awarded to him by the bounty of his royal brother, assigned to the monks of Grestein, the manors of Creting and Brettenham in Suffolk; Salsington in Cambridgeshire; Wilmington with its members, six hides in Ferles, a house in Pevensey, and pannage and herbage in Pevensey forest, in Sussex^h. Matilda his countess added ten hides in Conocⁱ (Covick in Wiltshire^j); two hides and the church of Bedingham^k (in Sussex); a house in London; and thirty-two hides of land which she had of the gift of her father Roger de Montgomery (earl of Shrewsbury), viz. eight hides in Harrington^l (in this county), eleven hides in Marsh^m (in Buckinghamshire), and the remainder in places which I am unable to appropriate. All the above donations were prior to the compilation of domesday, and a comparison of the grants with the entries of them in that invaluable but imperfectly understood record suggests some elucidatory, and perhaps not uninteresting, observations. The measurement of the lands when given in the original grants, will be found on examination of the references at the foot of the page, uniformly the same, hide for hide, in domesday; with the solitary exception of Ferles in Sussex, which in the former is sixⁿ, and in the latter eight hides^o. Not so the tenures. Penton in Hampshire, being of the king's gift^p, was of course held in capite^q; and as the earl and countess of Moreton held immediately from the crown, it would be naturally inferred that the whole of the lands for which the monastery were indebted to their liberality would be held mediately under the earl; and the deduction is in most of the cases borne out by the fact; yet in the domesday survey, the abbey of Grestein stands tenant in capite of Harrington in this county with the members within its soke^r, whilst Marsh in Buckinghamshire which was associated with it in the several donations from Montgomery to his daughter, and from her to the abbey, is held in subtenancy of the earl^s—a discrepancy which seems to indicate that the Norman tenures were adopted arbitrarily, and not under the regulation of any fixed principle. In corroboration of domesday being an imperfect register of the cotemporary churches, it may be observed that the church of Bedingham expressly granted by the countess Matilda is unnoticed in that survey^t.

William earl of Moreton, son of the domesday earl, was also a considerable benefactor to the monks of Grestein. In Dorsetshire, he gave them Winbourn; and in Northantscire [Northamptonshire] whatsoever he had in Grafton, the usufructuary possession having reverted to him from the domesday mesne lord or his successor; a virgate of land in Pevensey (in Sussex); and the monastery in Blakesley with two hides of land which Sagrin the priest held^u; and then, after intervening entries of lands, tithes, and churches in different counties, follow the churches of Bugbrook, Grafton, and Helmdon^v in this county.

* Dugd. Warw. (ed. 1765) p. 504. ^b Domesd. fo. 222b. ^c Ibid. fo. 223. ^d Ibid. fo. 223b. ^e Ibid. fo. 229b. ^f Ibid. fo. 324.
^g Mon. Ang. 2, p. 992. ^h Mon. Ang. 2, p. 992 & Domesd. fo. 68b. ⁱ Mon. Ang. 2, p. 992 & Domesd. fo. 20b. ^j Mon. Ang. 2, p. 992, & Domesd. fo. 222b. ^k Mon. Ang. 2, p. 992 & Domesd. fo. 146b. ^l Domesd. fo. 20b. ^m Ibid. fo. 43b. ⁿ Mon. Ang. 2, p. 992.
^o Vide Bugbrook, vol. 1, p. 130 & 121. ^p Vide Blakesley, p. 20.

In the hydariam of Hen. 2, the abbey of Grestein was certified to hold in Grafton, which is returned under Tower hundred, four hides^a, an astonishing increase from the four parts of an hide in domesday, if it be not, as I suspect, a clerical error of the transcriber. In 15 Hen. 3 (1230) William abbot of Grestein for 25s. released three of his tenants from certain services and suit at his court of Grafton^b. In 19 Hen. 3 (1234) the abbot resisted the claim of Walter de Wyvill to suit at the hundred court of Cleley^c; and the confirmation charter from Edward II. to the abbey, recites that John son of Walter de Wilevil of Grafton had released and quitclaimed the abbot and convent, and their tenants at Grafton, from suit at the said hundred court^d. In the book of knight's fees 24 Edward I (1295) the abbot of Grestein was returned under the hundred of Cleley to hold the vill of Grafton of the earl of Moreton^e; and in 9 Edw. 2 (1315) he was certified to be lord of Grafton^f.

On a plea of the crown in 3 Edw. 3 (1329) the jurors presented that the prior of Wilmington in Sussex held the town of Grafton which was of the fee of Moreton, of the king in pure alms, but they knew not by what warrant; when the abbot of Grestein pleaded that the prior held nothing in Grafton except at his will, who himself held it of the king in capite, of the fee of Moreton, and he and his predecessors had so held it from time beyond memory; and accordingly judgment was given in his favour^g.

In 22 Edw. 3 (1348) the king granted licence to the abbey of Grestein to demise to *Tidenan de Lymbergh* for one thousand years the manors of Norton in Somersetshire, Connoc in Wiltshire, "Rammerugge" in Hampshire, Marsh in Buckinghamshire, *Grafton* in Northamptonshire, Dernford in Cambridgeshire, and Creeting and Milkfield in Suffolk, which had lately been taken into the king's hands, and belonged to the priory of Wilmington in Sussex, at will to the said abbot^h. The interest of Lymbergh in this manor was within a few years transferred to the wealthy Hull merchant,

Sir Michael de la Pole, who in 28 Edw. 3 (1354) had a grant of free warren in Bliburgh in Lincolnshire, Gresthorp in Nottinghamshire, and Graftonⁱ. In 33 Edw. 3 (1359) this Michael de la Pole with the king's permission acquired, or had a confirmation of this manor in fee, from the abbot and convent of Grestein^j; and by fine in 7 Ric. 2 (1383) settled it on his younger sons *William de la Pole*, *Richard de la Pole*, and *Thomas de la Pole* successively in tail male, remainder to himself in fee^k. At this period he was lord chancellor of England, and in 9 Ric. 2 (1385) was created earl of Suffolk, but the year following fled from the charge of treason and was outlawed. On an inquisition of his estates in 12 Ric. 2 (1388) the above fine was recited, by which this manor was secured to his son, *William de la Pole*^l; on whose decease without issue in July 14 Ric. 2 (1390) it devolved by virtue of the settlement, on his brother *Richard de la Pole*, a minor twelve years of age^m, who also dying issueless, was succeeded in Dec. 5 Hen. 4 (1403) by his brother *Thomas de la Pole*, then twenty-six years of ageⁿ, and afterwards knighted. He died in Aug. 8 Hen. 5 (1420) having three years before demised his manor of Grafton to trustees, who after his death conveyed it to lady Anne de la Pole his widow, in tail male^o; and her only son *Thomas de la Pole* dying during her lifetime in July 8 Hen. 6 (1430) a minor and unmarried, it was found by the office on his death, that Katherine was his sister and heiress aged fourteen years, but that the manor of Grafton ought, on the determination of his mother's life interest, to pass to his heir male *William de la Pole* earl of Suffolk^p, afterwards duke of Suffolk; by whom, I presume, it was alienated to *Thomas Wilevill*, esq. who was in possession in the thirteenth year of this reign.

The family of Wilevill, Wiville, Wyvill, Wydeville, or Woodville, for in all these varieties it occurs in official documents or private evidences, and even with still greater latitude of orthography, may be traced to the twelfth century. By a subinfeudation which could not be later than the reign of Henry the second *William de Wivill* had lands in Grafton, for which he rendered 25s. yearly to the abbot of Grestein; and in 7 Joh. (1205) a jury was summoned to inquire whether Hugh father of Robert de Wivill was seised in demesne of three virgates there which Robert claimed against Richard de Wivill, and if Hugh did homage to the abbot of Grestein who granted to him 5s. out of the 25s, which William de Wivill was accustomed to render; when they presented that William de Wivill father of Hugh rendered 25s. yearly, and after process of time William permitted his son Hugh on his marriage to build a house in his chief court, and gave him a certain assart of three or four acres, but they knew not to a certainty how many acres; and he died in that house, and his father afterwards held all the land for his life, and his wife also^q. *Robert de Wivill* the same year levied a fine of the three virgates of land to Richard de Wivill at a reserved rent of 7s. yearly, and held besides in birthright a virgate of land, a capital messuage, and four acres of assart, which Hugh his father held in Grafton^r. By another plea in the same reign, this Robert de Wivill claimed against another Robert de Wivill brother of Richard de Wivill two virgates and a half of land in Grafton, as his right, and of which Hugh his father by command of William his father, and Emma his mother, of whose marriage the land was, received homage of the said Robert for one virgate, and died seised of the service, and the residue of the land he claimed to hold in demesne. Robert acknowledged to hold that virgate of him, and it was adjudged that he should have the service of one virgate, and might sue for a writ for the virgate and a half if he wished^s. There is no little difficulty in adjusting the genealogical position of the parties in these suits; but Hugh is doubtless the grantee of Cleley hundred in the time of king John, and the head of the six generations recited in the *Quo Warranto* of 3 Edw. 3 (1329)^t. As the line was continued by his son *William* it may be fairly inferred that his son Robert here mentioned, and probably then heir, died without issue; and I have also ventured to assign to the defendants a conjectural place in the subjoined pedigree.

The Wilevilles kept gradually rising in the scale of local importance; and in 25 Edw. 1 (1297) *John de Wydevill*, esq. was returned from the county of Northampton as holding lands to the amount of £20 yearly and upwards, either

^a Cotton MSS. Vesp. E. xxi. fo. 96. ^b Hatton MSS. "Fin. 15 Hen. 3." ^c Cardigan MSS. G. 3, "Claus. 19 Hen. 3." ^d Mon. Ang. 2, p. 994. ^e Cardigan MSS. Nom. VIII. p. 89. ^f Ibid. p. 9. ^g Inham MSS. No. 37, "Plac. Coron. 3 Edw. 3." ^h Rot. Orig. 22 Edw. 3, r. 31 & Rot. Pat. 22 Edw. 3, p. 3, m. 13. ⁱ Rot. Cart. 28 Edw. 3, n. 2. ^j Rot. Claus. 33 Edw. 3, n. 6. ^k Fin. 7 Ric. 2. ^l Esc. 12 Ric. 2, n. 179. ^m Esc. 14 Ric. 2, n. 40. ⁿ Esc. 5 Hen. 4, n. 39. ^o Esc. 8 Hen. 5, n. 56. ^p Esc. 9 Hen. 6, n. 45. ^q Placit. Pauch. 7 & 8 Joh. r. 3. ^r Hatton MSS. Fin. 7 Joh. ^s Placit. incert. Joh. r. 12 in dorso. ^t Cardigan MSS. p. 74. ^u Vide Cleley Hundred, p. 116.

in capite or otherwise, and as such summoned under the general writ to perform military service in person with horse and arms in parts beyond the seas.¹ His grandson *Richard de Widevill* was one of the most influential men in the county. He executed the office of high sheriff no less than eight times in the reign of Edward III., and was one of its representatives in seven parliaments. The same county honors were almost as frequently conferred on his son *John Widevill* and grandson *Thomas Widevill*, who became *lord of Grafton*, where his ancestors had been seated as tenants nearly three centuries. When he died is not known, but his original will is still extant¹, and as an early specimen of the testamentary style, no less than for the information it conveys, is transferred to these pages.

"To the worship of God of owre Lady and of all the company of Heven, this is the wille of me *Thomas Widevill* of Grafton in the counte of Norhampton Squyer as it shewyth more pleyne benethe be [hy] parcellis made at Grafton Aboveseyd the xij day of the monethe of Octobr the yere of the regne of Kyng Henry the sixte after the conquest the thertenth.

In the first, I woll that my fiefes of my londes make non astate of hem to no maner Aman unto the tyme that my dettes ben payed, my wille and my testament fully performed, and tho [this] done, I woll that my seyð fiefes of my londes maken a lawfull astate to my broder *Richard Widevill* and to the eyres males of his body lawfully begoten yn and off my maner and all oder my londes and tenementes rentes revercōns and sarvises w[ith] all [their] apurtynnances whatsoever they ben in Grafton besyde Aldrynton with the hundred of Cleley in the seyð counte of Norhampton. And if the seyð *Richard* my broder dye withouten yssu male of his body lawfully begoten than I woll that all the seyð maner londes and tenementes rentes revercōns and sarvises with all oder her apurtynnances whatsoever they be in Grafton aboveseyd togeder with the seyð hundred of Cleley reverten holly to my right eyres. Also I woll that my seyð fiefes maken a lawfull astate to my right eyres yn and off all my londes and tenementes as well of my purchases of fiesympull rentes revercōns and sarvises with all other her apurtynnances whatsoever they ben in Westpury in Hertwell in the seyð counte of Norhampton in Hulcote in the counte of Bedford in Burton milles in the counte of Bokynghū to holden to hem and to the right eyres of her bodies lawfully begoten for evermore in party of recompensaciōn of the seyð maner of Grafton with the apurtynnances. And if my seyð right eyres dye with owten eyres of her bodies lawfully begoten than I woll that all the seyð londes and tenementes of my purchas and fiesympull with rentes revercōns and sarvises with all oder her apurtynnances whatsoever they ben reverte to the right eyres of *John Widevill* my flader. Also I woll that after my dettes ben payed my will and my testament fully performed that than my seyð fiefes maken a lawfull astate to my right eyres and to the eyres of her bodies lawfully begoten yn and off all my maners londes and tenementes rentes revercōns and sarvises with all other her apurtynnances whatsoever they ben in the townes and in the feldes of Norhampton, Hortōn, Estoñ, Hulcote, Thurneby, Assheñ, Rosade, Hertewell, and Quyn-ton or in eny other place the whiche ben undeviseid with in the seyð counte of Norhampton. And if my seyð right eyres dyen withouten yssu of her bodies lawfully begoten than I woll that the same londes and tenementes rentes revercōns and sarvises with all other her apurtynnances holly reverten to the right eyres of my seyð flader *John Widevill*. Also I woll that my seyð fiefes keyn the maner of *Stoke Brewerne* and Aldrynton and all other londes and tenementes medewes lewesewes and pastures rentes revercōns and sarvises with the avowsons of the chirch of the seyð *Stoke* and Aldrynton, and all other apurtynnances in the seyð *Stoke*, Aldrynton, and Shittehanger in the counte of Norhampton stille in her hondes unto the tyme that they have reseyed ther off cc m̄rk (£133. 6s. 8d.) and payed it to my executores to purforme with my wille or elles till the tyme that they that pretenden tytell to enheriyten the seyð maner of *Stoke* with the apurtynnances be tayle as it is aboveseyd hav payed to my seyð executores the seyð cc m̄rk and this payment of this cc m̄rk in the forme aboveseyd hadd and an annuete of an s^d be my seyð fiefes to be graunted to the flader and the moder of mayster *John Ayleward* now parson of the chirch of the seyð *Stok* in case that the seyð parson dye lyving his seyð fader and his moder or on of hem, may be made seker [secure] to hem yerely to be taken of the seyð maner of *Stoke* with the apurtynnances to hem or to on of hem longest lyving to the terme of her lyves at the termes specyified in a dede ther of to hem to be made be my seyð fiefes, all this trewly and effectually performed than I woll that my seyð fiefes maken astate to theyme that pretend to have the enherytance of the seyð maner be tayle acordyng ther to. Also it is my wille that my seyð fiefes maken astate to the abbot of Seynt *James* besyde Norhampton to the covent of the same place and to theyre successores, in the Ermytage of Grafton, Schawe Woode, and in the maner of Avescote and all oder londes and tenementes rentes revercōns and sarvises in Evescote, Patteshull, Deriescote, and Escote, with all her apurtynnances wheresoever and whatsoever they ben in the counte of Norhampton and in Fighelghen in the counte of Wiltshir or owhtwhere elles to the terme of fifty winter after the date of the dede be my seyð fiefes ther of to hem made, and if the same londes may ben enproperted to hem in the mene tyme for evermore for to find with v poremene and a keeper for hem and for to do other certeyne obsurrances in the seyð abbey to the worship of God and for the helth of the soules of me the seyð *Thomas Widevill* my wives *Elizabeth* and *Ales* my fader my moder my graunser *Thomas* [John?] *Lyons*, *Margarete* his wyf, and all other my firendes and all crysteñ dewyng the seyð terme of fifty wynter and for evermore if the seyð Ermytage woode and maner with the apurtynnances may ben enproperted to the seyð abbot and to his successores in the forme that shal ben comprehended in a peyre endentures ther of to be made betwene the seyð abbot and his successores and my seyð fiefes. Also I woll that my seyð fiefes and my executores purchessen as mych lond as they may have for cc m̄rk and geve it to my seyð right eyres of her bodies lawfully begoten in full recompensaciōn of the seyð maner in Grafton aboveseyd, and if my seyð right eyres dyen with owte eyres of her bodies lawfully begoten than I woll that the seyð londes be my fiefes and executores with my goode so purchessed reverte to the right eyres of my fader *John Widevill*. Also I woll that my seyð fiefes gñiten to *John Beok* my olde sarvant a place and vj acres of lond with the apurtynnances in Grafton aboveseyd, in the which he is poessed now and an annuete of 1 m̄rk be geve be dede to be takyn to hym terme of his lyf of my seyð maner and all my lōndes in Grafton at usuell termes in the seyð dede conteyned with a clause of distresse for defaute of pay-

¹ Cardigan MSS. M. p. 75, & Parl. Writs, 1, p. 903.

¹ Fermor evidences.

ment. Also I will that my seyd ffeifes gniten to Roburd Packer my sarvant a place and vj acres of lond with the apurtynances in Grafton aboveseyd and an annuyte of xx^s be yere be dede to be takyn to hym terme of his lyf of my maner [and] my londes in Grafton aboveseyd at usuell termes in the seyd dede conteyned with a clause of distresse for default of payment. Also I will that my seyd ffeifes gniten to John of the Botery my sarvant a place and all the londes and tenementes with her apurtynances the which I purchased of John Warwick squyer in Westpury to hym terme of his lyf yielding therof yerely a rose flowre to my seyd ffeifes at the fest of midsomere terme of his lyf and beryng all other charges to the seyd place and lond longyng during the seyd terme. Also I will that my seyd ffeifes graunten to my nece Elizabeth Holwell an annuyte of vj mark to be taken to her terme of her lyf of my maner in Hertwell with the apurtynances called Morwelles maner and of all other my londes and tenementes in the seyd towne with the apurtynances wheresover they be with a clause of distresse for default of payment. Also I will that my seyd ffeifes gniten to Margaret Broke my sarvaunt an annuyte of xx^s to be taken to her terme of her lyf of my maner and all my londes and tenementes in Roode with the apurtynances wheresover they be with a clause of distresse for default of payment. In the witnesse of the which thyng to this parte of my wille trypartite endentud my seall I have put to. Yeven the day and the yer and the place aboveseyd. Also I will that myn⁹ executors schal receyven and haven to pforme my wyll al maner of rentes and pfytes comyng of my londes tenement; reysions and s'vices the which my ffeifes shall holden in her hondes on to my seyd wyll be fully pformed. Also I will that my seyd ffeifes gniten to Wylliam Boteler my s'vaunt all my londes and tenementes wyth the apurtynances in Horton by dede to be taken to hym terme of hys lyf. Also I will that my seyd ffeifes gniten to Thomas Barbor my s'vaunt ataste in all my londes and tenementes wyth the apurtynances in Quynnton to terme of hys lyfe. Also I will that my seyd ffeifes gniten to Wylliam Mannynng my s'vaunt all the londes and tenementes that I have in Est-neston and Hulcote bysseyd Towcast in the counte of Norht. to terme of hys lyf." To this will the testator has appended his seal — within a circle, the fess and canton of Wideville, quarterly with a coat now undistinguishable, the helmet and a bird for the crest tastefully disposed, and circumscribed SIGILLUM THOME WIDEVILLE^m.

The notices of Richard de Wideville in the reigns of Henry the fourth, fifth, and sixth, all of which are assigned by Dugdale⁹ to earl Rivers, relate to three individuals. Richard, the sheriff for this county in 7 Hen. 4 (or 8 Hen. 4) is evidently a misnomer for Thomas⁹, the above testator. Richard, the esquire of the body to the fifth Henry, and seneschall of the duchy of Normandy and the other parts of France in subjection to that monarch, was the brother and successor of Thomas. He presented to Wicken by the name of Richard Wydeville, *esq.* in 18 Hen. 6 (1440), and Joan widow of Richard Wydeville, *esq.* presented in 1442, consequently he never exceeded the rank of *esquire*—a title which was not then, as now, degraded by an indiscriminate appropriation—and the Richard, who was knighted at Leicester in 4 Hen. 6 (1426)⁹ must therefore have been his son.

Richard afterwards earl Rivers. In 5 Hen. 6 he was lieutenant governor of Calais under the duke of Bedford. In 7 Hen. 6 he was retained by indenture to serve the king in his wars of France and Normandy for half a year, with one hundred men at arms and three hundred archers; and 14 Hen. 6 was again in the expedition against France. The duke of Bedford, regent of France, died in September this year⁹; and in the following year a petition was presented to the king in parliament, "how Jacquete late wyf to John Due of Bedford youre noble Uncle to whos soule God do mercy, the whiche helde of yowe by knyght service in chief, following her cure and fortune, as many of full notable and gode estate do afore this, for causes as she trusteth to God agreeable to hym, toke but late ago to Husbond youre trewe liegeman born of youre Roialme of England, Richard Wydevill knyght, not having therto youre Ricall licence and assent" for which offence they had suffered "right grete streitnesse, as well in their persones as in their godes;" that her dower had been wholly taken to the king's use, and that she had "neither londe nor gode, her to susteine" without the king's "rightwessness and habundant grace in this partie shewed; for the love of God, and in wey of charitee," prayed that letters patent of pardon might be granted on a reasonable fine. The king for a fine of £1000 pardoned the transgression⁹; she had an ample assignment of dower⁹; and he was restored to favor. In 26 Hen. 6 (1448) for his valour, integrity, and great services, he was created BARON RIVERS⁹, the name of an ancient family, and for the better support of the dignity, had a grant in tail male of an annual rent of £14. 4s. payable to the castleward of Northampton from the honor of Chokes, all the knight's fees and services belonging to the honor of Chokes Bryan fee, Bayeux fee, Mandeville fee, Lexington fee, and the baronies of Riparis or Rivers and Ledet⁹. About the same time he had a grant of free warren in Grafton, Pateshull, and Wicken, though they were within the bounds of the forest⁹.

Towards the close of the year 1459 (38 Hen. 6) the earl of Warwick having seized Calais, and the duke of Somerset being unable to dispossess him, sent for re-inforcements to king Henry, who dispatched lord Rivers and his son Anthony Widevill with four hundred men to Sandwich, where some ships were ordered to transport them to the French coast; but whilst detained there by contrary winds, Warwick, apprised of their situation, sent a small body of men in some vessels which had deserted to him, and watching their opportunity they secretly entered the port in the night time, surprised Rivers and his son in their beds, and carried them off with most of the ships to Calais⁹. Rivers recovered his liberty, and continued firm in his adherence to the Lancastrian cause, till the marriage of his daughter Elizabeth to king Edward IV. converted him into a zealous Yorkist, and new trusts and dignities were showered upon him by his royal son in law. In Mar. 6 Edw. 4 (1466) he was appointed treasurer of the exchequer during pleasure⁹; and in May was created EARL RIVERS⁹. The year following, by the style of earl Rivers, lord of Grafton and de la Mote (in Kent)—though no such baronies are found in the charter of erection to his earldom—he was constituted constable of England for life with a yearly fee of £200, and reversion to his son Anthony Widevill lord Seales and Nusells for life⁹; and was also made treasurer of England⁹. In 8 Edw. 4 (1468) he had a grant of

⁹ Fernor evidences.⁹ Dugd. Bar. 2, p. 230.⁹ Fuller, Bridges, &c.⁹ Esc. 14 Hen. 6, n. 36.⁹ Rot. Parl. vol. 4, p. 426.⁹ Esc. 15 Hen. 6, n. 5, & 17 Hen. 6, n. 3, & Pat. 8 Feb. 19 Hen. 6, p. 2.⁹ Pat. 29 May 26 Hen. 6, p. 2, n. 4.⁹ Cart. 27 to 39 Hen. 6, n. 28.⁹ Hollinshead. ⁹ Pat. 4 Mar. 6 Edw. 4, p. 1, m. 14.⁹ Cart. 5 to 8 Edw. 4, n. 13.⁹ Pat. 7 Edw. 4, p. 1, m. 9.⁹ Pat. 7 Edw. 4, p. 2, m. 22.

free chase and warren in all his demesne lands and woods within the county of Northampton, and elsewhere throughout the kingdom^b. In July the ensuing year the northern insurrection under Neville and Conyers broke out, which led to the battle of *ENCORE*^c. No sooner had victory declared for the Lancastrians, than a party was detached to secure earl Rivers. Whether he was taken in the forest of Deane^d—an evident mistake for Whittlebury which lies brought to Northampton, and there beheaded without trial by order of sir John Conyers.

By his wife, the duchess of Bedford, the earl had a numerous family, splendidly allied to the ancient nobility. Within a few months subsequent to his tragical end, and probably, during her residence at Grafton, Thomas Wake, esq. (of Blisworth) "contrary to the laws of God, laws of this Land, and all reason and good consens, in the time of the late trouble and riotous season, of his malicious disposition towards her of long tyme continued, extending not onely to hurt and spaire her good name and fame," but also purposing "the fynall destruction of her pson," charged her with the absurd and long exploded crime of witchcraft and sorcery. Her accuser, when the king and court were at Warwick, caused to be brought before the lords an image of lead made like a man of arms the length of a man's finger, broken in the middle and made fast with a wire, alleging that it was made by the duchess to use with witchcraft and sorcery, and endeavoured to prevail on John Daunger the parish clerk of Stoke Brewerne to swear that there were two other images made by her, one for the king, and the other for the queen. The duchess declared that she had at all times truly believed on God according to the faith of holy church, and neither she, nor no one for her, nor by her, ever saw the image. Wake and Daunger, by her desire, and by command of the king, were summoned for examination before the bishop of Carlisle, the earl of Northumberland, lords Hastings and Mountjoy, and master Roger Radcliffe; when Wake deposed that this image was shewed and left in Stoke with an honest person who delivered it to the clerk of the church, and so shewed it to divers neighbours, afterwards it was shewn in Sewardsey nunnery. Of all this he heard or wist nothing till it was sent him by Thomas Kymbell from the said clerk, who came home to him and told him as he had said to the lord of Carlisle and to his mastership (Radcliffe), from which saying as by hearsay he neither might nor would vary, and if any person would charge him with more than he had said, he would discharge him as should accord with his truth and duty. Daunger deposed, that Wake sent his bailiff Thomas Kymbell and bade him send the image of lead which he had, and so he sent it by Kymbell, but he never heard any witchcraft of my lady of Bedford. The image was delivered to him by one Harry Kingston of Stoke, who found it in his house after the departure of soldiers (soudours). Wake after he came from London from the king sent for deponent and told him he had excused himself and laid all the blame on him, and therefore bade him say there were two other images, one for the king and another for the queen, but he refused to say so. The duchess was acquitted; and, on her petition, an exemplification of the proceedings under the great seal was placed on the patent rolls^e.

Anthony second earl Rivers, one of the most valiant and accomplished noblemen of the fifteenth century, was in his seventeenth year, when he was seized with his father at Sandwich, and carried prisoner to Calais. Before he had attained his majority, he was united to Elizabeth daughter and heiress of Thomas lord Scales, and in 2 Edw. 4 (1462) was summoned to parliament as *BARON SCALES* of *NUCELLES* in her right. On the breaking out of the insurrection in Northumberland he accompanied the king, and was one of the principal commanders at the siege of Alnwick castle. A short time before the coronation of his sister in 1465, lord Scales on his return from high mass in the chapel of the palace at Richmond was surrounded by the ladies of the court, who placed a gold collar above his right knee, with a flower of sovereignty composed of jewels, which he understood to be intended as the prize of some chivalrous exploit. In consequence, he challenged the count de la Roche commonly called the Bastard of Burgundy; but their meeting was delayed till June 1467, when the encounter took place in Smithfield in the presence of the king and the assembled court. Of this celebrated tournament which continued two days, the first on horseback, the second on foot, in both of which Scales was victorious, a most circumstantial and highly curious narrative, with some ingenious prefatory observations, is introduced in a recent antiquarian publication^f. Almost immediately after, Scales formed one of an embassy to Charles duke of Burgundy to negotiate a marriage between him and Margaret the king's sister; and on the celebration of the nuptials at Bruges, both he, and his brother sir John Wideville entered the lists. For several succeeding years he was actively engaged in the service of his royal brother in law. On the defection of the earl of Warwick and the duke of Clarence in 1470 (10 Edw. 4) he defeated them near Southampton; and when in the same year the tide of war turned in their favor, and Edward was displaced from his throne by "the King-maker" and took refuge in Flanders, he accompanied him; and when the undaunted monarch in the following spring re-entered England and recovered his lost crown, he appointed Scales captain general of all his forces, by sea and land. In 1472 he was one of the embassy for effecting an offensive and defensive treaty with the duke of Bretagne. In the ensuing year prince Edward (afterwards Edward V.) being created prince of Wales, he had the honor of being appointed governor to his royal nephew, and had a grant of the chief butlership of England. In July the same year he visited the shrine of St. James in Galicia, and from Spain passed into Italy, where he visited Rome, and made many pilgrimages. Being in his second widowhood in 1482 (22 Edw. 4) he was on the point of attaining the proud distinction of a Scotch princess in marriage—Margaret, sister of king James III.—the bishop of Rochester lord privy seal, and sir Edward Wideville having been dispatched into Scotland for that purpose; but the negotiation appears to have been broken off by the decease of king Edward (9 April 1483) which not only frustrated this hope, but was the precursor of his untimely end. The young prince was at Ludlow castle in Shropshire, and the queen mother being anxious for his immediate coronation directed her brother, earl Rivers,

^b Cart. 8 Edw. 4, n. 6.

^c Stow.

^d Holinshed.

^e Rot. Parl. vol. 6, p. 232, "Pat. 10 Feb. 9 Edw. 4, p. 2, m. 5.

^f *Excerpta Historica*, p. 171 to 212.

^g *Vide* vol. 1, p. 500.

to repair to him without loss of time and escort him to London. On the 30th of April, the royal party reached Northampton, where they were unexpectedly joined by the duke of Gloucester, whom the late King, not suspecting his hypocritical and ambitious designs, had recommended to the regency. He was attended by a train of 600 northern gentry, and the duke of Buckingham shortly after made his appearance with 900 followers. Rivers had previously sent the young King forward under the charge of lord Richard Grey to Stony Stratford for the night, intending to be with them in the morning before they started. On the arrival of the two dukes he waited upon them to explain and apologise for the absence of his royal charge, and was received with apparent friendship. They spent the evening together in amicable conversation, but no sooner had he returned to his lodgings, than they secured the keys of his inn, and of the town gates. The rest of the night they passed in secret council, and at day-break gave orders to their attendants to hold themselves in instant readiness. When Rivers understood the town gates were closed, the roads on every side secured, and neither himself nor servants suffered to go out, he suspected treachery, but boldly went to the dukes, and demanded an explanation of their extraordinary conduct. As soon as he appeared they accused him of sowing dissension between them and the king, and when he began to defend himself "as he was a very well spoken man," instead of listening to him, they arrested him. Having placed him under guard, they hastened to Stratford where they arrived just as the King and his company were "ready to leape on horseback." Approaching their young sovereign on their knees and with every external mark of respect, they charged the marquiss of Dorset and lord Richard Grey his uterine brothers, and lord Rivers his uncle, with compassing to rule the realm, and setting variances amongst the nobility; they arrested the lord Richard Grey, and sir Thomas Vaughan, in the King's presence, and brought the King and all his retinue back to Northampton, where they dismissed the royal servants, and replaced them with their own dependants; "at which dealing he wept and was nothing content, but it booted not." Whilst at dinner, Gloucester sent a dish from his own table to lord Rivers, beseeching him to be of good courage and all would yet be well. He thanked the duke, and begged the messenger to bear it to his nephew lord Richard with the same message for his comfort as one to whom such adversity was strange. Notwithstanding this mock courtesy, Gloucester sent them prisoners into Yorkshire, first to Sheriff Hutton, and then to Pontefract. Here, on the 24th of June, two days only after he had thrown off the mask, and usurped the throne, sir Richard Radcliffe, acting under his instructions, brought Rivers, Grey, and Vaughan out of the castle to a scaffold proclaiming them traitors, and not permitting them to speak lest they should excite the pity of the spectators, ordered them to be decapitated without process or judgment.

Thus fell in the prime of life the gallant, polite, and learned Rivers. He was one of the earliest patrons of Caxton, the father of English printing, and one of the first who furnished employment to his press; the second work printed in England being "The Dictes and Sayengis of the Philosophers, translated out of French by Antoine Erle Ryviers, &c." Emprynted by William Caxton at Westmestre. Folio 1477. It consists of seventy-five leaves. The earl, in his preface, observes, that every human creature is subject to the storms of fortune, and perplexed with worldly adversity of which he had largely had his share; but having been relieved by the goodness of God, he was exhorted to dispose his recovered life to his service. And understanding there was to be a jubilee and pardon at St. James in Spain in 1473, he set sail from Southampton in July, when a worshipful gentleman in his company lent him to pass away the time this book in French, translated from the Latin by Johan de Teonville provost of Paris. Finding it was a "glorious fair myrrour to all good Christen people to behold and understonde," though he could not then, nor in all that pilgrimage oversee it well at his pleasure through the dispositions that belonged to the taker of a jubilee and pardon, and the great acquaintance he found there of worshipful folks, "he intended at a more convenient time to be better acquainted with it;" and remaining in this opinion after the King had appointed him governor to the prince, and having leisure, he then translated it into English. A beautiful MS. of this translation is preserved in the archiepiscopal library at Lambeth, with an illumination or miniature painting of the earl in his surcoat of arms, presenting his book and Caxton his printer, to King Edward IV. the queen and prince, and their attendants; an engraving of which is prefixed to Walpole's "Royal and Noble Authors." Besides this work, the earl translated, and Caxton printed, "The morale proverbes of Chyrstyne of Pyse," 1477. And, "The Cordyal, or Memorare Novissima," 1480. In the Epilogue or Conclusion, a curious eulogy on the author, written by Caxton, he says, "This book is thus translated out of Frenche into our maternal tongue by the Noble and Virtuouse Lord Anthoine Erle Ryviers, Lord Scales, and of the Isle of Wight, Defenseur and Directeur of the Causes Apostolique for our holy Fader the Pope in this Roymage of England, Uncle and Governour to my Lord Prince of Wales." Walpole thus pointedly sums up his character. "The credit of his sister [the queen], the countenance and example of his prince, the boisterousness of the times, nothing softened, nothing roughened the mind of this amiable lord, who was as gallant as his luxurious brother in law, without his weaknesses; as brave as the heroes of either Rose, without their savageness; studious in the intervals of business, and devout after the manner of those whimsical times, when men challenged others whom they never saw, and went barefoot to visit shrines in countries of which they had scarce a map." He was succeeded in his earldom and patrimonial estates by his youngest but only surviving brother

Richard, third and last earl Rivers. He was attained in parliament in 1 Ric. 3 (1483) by the name of sir Richard Wideville of London^s, but restored in blood on the accession of Henry VII. in 1485^b. By his will bearing date 20 Feb. 1490-1 (6 Hen. 7) he "bequeathed his body to be buried in the abbey of *St. James at Northampton* in a place made ready for the same. And to the Parish Church of *Grafton* all such Cattel as he then had at *Grafton*; viz. two Oxen, five Kine, and two Bullocks, to the intent that they should yearly keep an *obit* for his Soul (viz. *Dirige and Masse of Requiem*) with the Curate, iv Priests, and iv Clerks, as also an Herse and four Tapers; every Priest taking for his Wages ^vs and every Clerk ⁱⁱd^l. Appointing that the Lord *Thomas Marquess Dorset* should be his Heir; to whom he thereby gave all his Lands wheresoever; desiring him that there might be as much underwood sold, in the

^a Rot. Parl. vol. 6, p. 246.

^b Ibid. p. 273.

Thomas Grey marquis of Dorset, devisee of Grafton from his uncle earl Rivers, died 17 Hen. 7 (1501)¹, and his son *Thomas*, the second marquis, in 19 Hen. 8 (1527) conveyed Grafton and Hartwell, in exchange for the manors and advowsons of Loughborough and Sheepshed in Leicestershire, to

*King Henry VIII.*² who in 1541 (33 Hen. 8) erected the manor of Grafton into an Honor by act of parliament.³ Honor and barony were in early times synonymous, and indicated a seignory to which certain inferior lordships or manors owed the performance of customs and services. All territorial honors are feudal and prescriptive, except only Hampton Court in Middlesex, Amptill in Bedfordshire, and Grafton. In 37 Hen. 8 (1545) the king was empowered to create by letters patent four other honors, Westminster, Kingston on Hull in Yorkshire, Donington in Berkshire, and St. Osith in Essex, and as many others as he willed⁴; but he never exercised the power.

HONOR OF GRAFTON. By this act, "for diverse sundrie urgent and necessary causes and considerations the king's majesty specially movinge," it is enacted, that all those his majesty's hundreds of WYMERSELEY and ALFORDHROVE [HAMFORDSHO], and his forests of WHITTLEWOOD and SAWSEY (SALCEY), and his chases of YARDLEY in the county of Northampton and WHADDON in the county of Buckingham, and all manors, parks, messuages, sites of monasteries and priories, granges, lands, and all other hereditaments in the hamlets, towns, and parishes of GRAFTON, HARTWELL, ASHTON, RODE, CORTEENHALL, ALDERTON, STOKE BREWERY, SHITTLEHANGER, SHOWSLEY, BLISWORTH, MILTON MALLIESWORTH [MILTON MALSOR], TIFFIELD, PALLISPERY [PAULERSPURY], TOSSITER [TOWCETER], EASTON [NESTON], HULCOTT, ARTHORP, FOSCOTT, GREENS NORTON, BLAKESLEY, WOODEND, COLD HIGHAM, GRIMSOTT, GAYTON, PATSELL [PATISHULE], ESCOTT, ASCOTT, DALESOTT, BADGEBROKE [BUGHROOK], RUDDITHORP [ROTHERSTHORP], COLLINGTHRIGH [COLLINTREE], HARDINGTON, WOOTON, QUINTON, SLAPTON, DENSHANGER, YARDLEY, POTTERSBERY, FURTHOO, COSGRAVE, CASTELL ASHBY, WICKEN, and DELAPREY in the county of Northampton, and in LOSFIELD (?), HANSLOPP, CASTLE THORP, HARSHAM [HAYERSHAM], SHENLEY, LITTLE HORWOOD, SNELSOE, and LITTLE LIDFORTH [LINFORD] in the county of Buckingham, and elsewhere in the realm of England belonging to any manor or hundred in any of the towns and parishes abovementioned, whereof the king is seised of an estate of inheritance, shall from henceforth be perpetually knit, annexed, and united to the said manor of Grafton. And the said manor of Grafton, together with all so united to the said manor as is above expressed, shall from henceforth be perpetually called the Honor of GRAFTON, and the same which has been heretofore taken for the manor of Grafton shall from the first day of May next coming, be adjudged the chief, principal, and capital park and place of the whole honor of Grafton; and all other manors and hereditaments in any of the places aforesaid whereof the king, or his heirs or successors shall be at any time hereafter seised of an estate of inheritance by purchase, escheat, or otherwise, shall be from time to time united and adjudged parcel or member of the said honor. And all the tenants, as well freeholders as copyholders, and all persons who owe suit to any of the said manors, or to any leet or laydway to be holden within the precinct of any of them, shall do their suits services and customs, and pay the rents to the said sundry manors, in such time as they did and ought to do before the making of this act; and the said tenants and suitors at any time hereafter shall not be chargeable to do any other services, nor be compelled to do or pay the same in any other places, nor any of the several tenures changed or charged otherwise than they were or ought to be before the making of this act; but this act shall not be prejudicial to any present or future lessees of the said manors and hereditaments, and the rights and interests of all persons and bodies politic and corporate, other than those who are or shall be parties or privy to the sales or grants of the said manors and hereditaments, shall be saved as though this act had never been made. It is further enacted that the said honor of Grafton, and all the manors and other premises above rehearsed, shall from henceforth be in the order survey and government of the court of Augmentation, and be granted lett and set to farm by the officers and ministers of that court in such manner as the other manors and premises appointed to that court be or ought to be. And all the revenues and profits coming of the premises shall be taken or received to the king's use, in such manner as is used of other manors and hereditaments committed to that court; but this act shall not be prejudicial to the powers or authorities of the justices, wardens, stewards, and lieutenants of the swanmotes of any forests parks or chases contained in this act, but only for and concerning surveying of the woods and woodsales to be made in any of them, and the punishment of the offenders therein, and the naming ruling and ordering of the verdurers thereof. And it is further enacted that the master of the woods of the court of augmentation, or other officers of the said court, shall yearly pay of such sums of money as shall yearly come of the woodsales to be made in the said parks forests or chases, all manner of fees and wages as of old time has been accustomed to be paid for the exercising of any office within them, according to a certificate in writing to be made to the said master of the woods by the justices of the forests, or any of their deputies, sealed and subscribed by them. And the said master of the woods for the time being shall make payment of all needful reparations of any pale rail or lodge within any of the said parks forests or chases, and assign timber for the same upon any request made thereof in writing by the said justices of forests, and the said master of the woods shall allow all manner of fuel and browse to be spent and occupied within the said parks forests and chases as it has been there used and occupied. And the master of the woods shall not make any woodsale within them without the assent of the justices of forests within whose authority such parks forests and chases shall be. And it is also enacted that the farms rents suits and services of such of the said manors and hereditaments in this act, belonging to the duchy of Lancaster and county palatine of Lancaster, shall be answered and paid in the court of the duchy chamber at Westminster, or to the receivers general and other ministers of the said court, in the same manner as heretofore has been accustomed, and all leases hereafter to be made of any of the said manors and hereditaments belonging to the said duchy shall be made under the seal of the duchy in the manner and form as heretofore has been used⁵.

¹ Esc. 17 Hen. 7.

² Dugd. Bar. 1, p. 731 & Esc. 24 Hen. 8, n. 136.

³ Act of Parl. 33 Hen. 8, c. 38.

⁴ Ibid. 37 Hen. 8, c. 18.

⁵ Lansdowne MSS. 225, fo. 510.

The courts of the honor are held annually; the principal one at Grafton, and sectional ones for the other places, at which the quit rents are paid, and constables appointed.

Grafton continued royal demesne till the reign of king Charles II. who in 1665 settled (int. al.) the honor lordship and manor of Grafton, manor of Hartwell and lands in Hartwell, Roade, and Hanslope (in Buckinghamshire), manors of Aldrington (Alderton)*, Blisworth, and Stoke Bruern, manor of Greens Norton† late belonging to William (Parr) late marquis of Northampton, manor of Potterspury parcel of Warwick lands, manor of More End formerly purchased from sir William Parr, manor of Ashton‡ and (Paulers) Pury parcel of sir Thomas Colepeper's lands, lands in Road purchased from Edmund Knightley, lands in Tighfield (Tiffeld) and Blisworth parcel of St. John's (hospitall) in Northampton, lands in Escote, and Cotton End (in Hardingston) parcel of St. James's (abbey) in Northampton, lands in Paulspury parcel of Chacombe priory, lands in Road late of John Mantell attained of high treason, lands in Grimscoth purchased of John Williams, lands in Houghton Parva, lands in Northampton, Hardingston, and Shitlanger parcel of Sewardsey (priory), the office or fee of the honor of Grafton, tolls of Old Stratford, and rents and assize, &c. of the honor of Grafton, the forests of Salcey and Whittlebury (reserving to the crown all great trees and timber trees, &c.), and the office or bailiwick of the liberty of the duchy of Lancaster, &c. in trust for *queen Catharine* for her life, as part of her jointure; and in 1673 granted the reversion of the whole of this extensive estate to *Henry* (Bennett) earl of Arlington for life, remainder "in consideration of natural love and affection to his natural son" *Henry earl of Euston* in tail male, remainder to his natural sons Charles earl of Southampton (afterwards duke of Cleveland and Southampton) and lord George Fitzroy alias lord George Palmer (afterwards duke of Northumberland) successively in tail male.

Two years after this reversionary grant, *GRAFTON* was selected for the title of the dukedom conferred on the earl of Euston. This nobleman was the second son of Charles II. by Barbara duchess of Cleveland; "rudely bred," says Evelyn, "but exceeding handsome, far exceeding any other of the king's natural issue;" and according to Burnet he had more spirit than any of them, and was a gallant but a rough man. When James II. on some occasion accused him of being factious, and told him he could not pretend to act upon principle, for he had been so ill conceived, yet he was of a *party* that had conscience. He engaged in both the naval and military services. He was at sea in 1680 when he was elected a knight of the garter. In 1681 he was appointed colonel of the first foot guards, and the following year vice-admiral of England. In 1687 he was prevailed on, though a protestant, to conduct the archbishop of Amara, the pope's nuncio, to his public audience of the king; and the same year escorted the queen of Portugal from Holland to Lisbon, and reduced the Corsairs of Tunis to subjection. On the landing of the prince of Orange, he was one of the protestant peers then in London who petitioned king James to call a free and regular parliament, but the king rejecting the advice, he and lord Churchill (afterwards the great duke of Marlborough) were the first to join the prince, though, when the crown was declared vacant, he voted in the minority for a regent. No sooner, however, were William and Mary established on the throne than he acknowledged their authority, and bore the king's orb at the coronation. In 1690 he accompanied the earl of Marlborough to Ireland, and at the siege of Cork, a breach having been effected, and the grenadiers ordered to storm the town, the duke whilst leading them and some resolute volunteers to the assault was mortally wounded by a shot on the 28th of September, and lingered till the 9th of October, when he died in the twenty-eighth year of his age. He was married by the archbishop of Canterbury in the presence of the king on the 1st of Aug. 1672 to the daughter and heiress of the earl of Arlington, who was only five years old; and re-married by the bishop of Rochester, the king being again present, on the 6th of Nov. 1679. Evelyn, who was present at both ceremonies* speaks of her with rapture—"a sweet child if ever there was any;" and on the second occasion breaks forth, "I pray God the sweetest child find it to her advantage, who, if my augury deceive me not, will in few years be such a paragon as were fit to make the wife of the greatest prince in Europe." Their only child

Charles second duke of Grafton, on the death of the dowager queen Catharine in 1705, the earl of Arlington who had a life interest having previously died in 1685, came into possession of Grafton and the other estates included in the grant of 1673. His grace was a personal favourite of the first two sovereigns of the house of Brunswick, and his public appointments were those of the courtier rather than of the statesman, with the exception of the lord lieutenancy of Ireland in 1720. He was uniformly one of the lords justices of Great Britain, or council of regency during the reigns of George the first and second, whenever the monarch visited his German dominions; and he retained the office of lord chamberlain of the king's household from 1724 to his death in 1757. His grandson and heir

Augustus-Henry, third duke of Grafton, assumed a more prominent position in the political world; and will never be forgotten as the subject of the bitter but unmerited invectives of the immortal Junius. Gifted with excellent talents and a graceful elocution, he commenced his official career in July 1765 as secretary of state for foreign affairs in the Rockingham administration, which repealed the American stamp act. Feeling however the instability of the government without the co-operation of Mr. Pitt, he resigned in May 1766; and when in July the formation of a new ministry was committed to that great statesman, he chose the office of privy seal with the earldom of Chatham, and placed his grace at the head of the cabinet as first lord of the treasury. The illness and consequent incapacity of lord Chatham deprived his colleagues of the powerful support they had anticipated from him, and in Nov. 1768 he finally retired from office; but his grace continued to hold the premiership, and it was during this period that he was assailed by the malignant philippics of Junius. Opposed, and sometimes outvoted on points of moment in the council, and thus rendered responsible for measures which he disapproved, he was reluctantly persuaded to remain at the helm, but in Jan. 1770 suddenly and most unexpectedly relinquished his situation, and was succeeded by

* Pat. 30 Jun. 17 Car. 2. p. 9, n. 1.

* Vide p. 130.

† Pat. 21 Jun. 23 Car. 2. p. 8, n. 8.

‡ Vide p. 61.

§ Evelyn's Memoirs, 4to, vol. 1, p. 432 & 482.

¶ Vide p. 133.

|| Vide p. 84.

lord North. In June 1771 his grace was induced to accept the vacant post of lord privy seal in the delusive hope of advocating with success a more conciliatory policy towards the colonies; and when in 1775 the petition from congress was contemptuously rejected, and the cabinet was unalterably resolved to resort to coercive measures, he withdrew from it, and became one of the most strenuous opponents of the ministry which lost America. On the overthrow of lord North in Mar. 1782 the government was committed to the Rockingham and Shelburne parties, and his grace resumed the office of lord privy seal. Scarcely three months elapsed before the death of the marquis of Rockingham led to the secession of his friends; and lord Shelburne struggled on till Apr. 1783, when he was overpowered by the memorable Fox and North coalition. His grace was then replaced by the earl of Carlisle, and retired in a great measure from parliamentary life, though he constantly deprecatd by his vote, and occasionally by his eloquence, the war which sprung out of the French revolution.

He was more than forty years chancellor of the university of Cambridge; and his liberal principles, classical acquisitions and patronage of literature fully entitled him to the distinction. His library, which he had collected with great taste and was peculiarly rich in early editions and large-paper copies of the classics, was disposed of in 1815. He devoted much of the leisure of his later years to the study of the scriptures, and most liberally offered to print a new edition in England of Griesbach's New Testament; but, as Griesbach had been employed for many years in the improvement of his work, it was judged more expedient that it should be re-printed on the continent under the author's own inspection, upon paper sent from England by the duke.

On his decease in March 1811, he was succeeded by his son

George-Henry the fourth and present duke of Grafton. In Dec. 1834 his grace was elected a knight of the garter, which distinguished honor has been practically hereditary, having been conferred on each of his predecessors.

The ramifications of the male line of FITZROY, as exhibited in the subjoined pedigree, are so numerous that a speedy extinction cannot be anticipated; but, in the event of such a contingency, the female line is provided with a barony, a viscountcy, and an earldom in the patent of creation to the earl of Arlington, by which his titles are descendible to the heirs of his body.

FITZROY, DUKE OF GRAFTON, 1835.



From the peerages, parish registers of Euston, co. Suffolk*, Grafton†, and other authorities.

Arms. Quarterly, first and fourth grand quarters France and England quarterly; second grand quarter, Scotland; third grand quarter, Ireland; over all, a baton sinister componé Argent and Azure. *Crest.* On a chapeau Gules, turned up Ermine, a lion stantant guardant Or, ducally crowned Azure, gorged with a collar counter-componé Argent and Azure. *Supporters.* Dexter, a lion guardant Or, ducally crowned Azure, gorged with a plain collar counter-componé Argent and Azure; sinister, a greyhound Argent, collared as the lion. *Motto.* Et decus et pretium recti.

2h. ROBERT
FIELDING,
esq. mar.
1705, ob.
.. May
1712.

1 h. ROGER = B
PALMER, earl li
of Castlemain in
in Ireland, o
ob. s. p. in o
North Wales I

BARBARA VILLIERS
 (Villiers) viscountess
 of Nonsuch, co. Sur.
 DUCHESS of CLE

s, d. & h. of Wil-	K
unt Grandison	II
ESS NONSUCH,	J
IT. COUNTESS	W
co. Hants, &	2
EVELAND, co.	ob

ING CHARLES=C.
born at St. in
James's palace, tu
Westminster, Ki
9 May 1630, m.
o. at Whitehall ho
Feb. 1684.5 t

CATHARINE,
Infanta of Por-
tugal, dau. of
King John IV.
b. 1662; had
hon. of Graf-
ess. Whittle.

This image shows a blank, aged, cream-colored page, likely an endpaper or flyleaf of a book. The paper has a slightly textured appearance with some faint smudges and discoloration, characteristic of old paper. The left edge of the page shows the binding of the book.

W. MARY, CHARLES F. D. W. ANNE,
d. & h. of sir Henry Wood, dan. of sir
of Leatham hall, Westminister June 1662,
col. of Suff. ob. 1690, bur. in the church of
col. of Suff. ob. 1690, bur. in the church of
minister abbe-
albe-
y.
Sass, & DUKE of
SOUTHAMPTON, co.
Hants, remainder
to his brother
George and heirs
male Feb. 10 Sept.
7 Car. 2 (1675),
DUKE of CLEVEL-
LAND on dec. of his
mother the 1709,
K. G. & ob. 9
Sept. 1730, bur-
in Westm. abbe-
y.
FITZROY DUKE of CLEVELAND,
co. York, & SOUTHAMPTON, co.
Hants; est. 1774.

2. HENRY FITZ-
ROY, born Sept. 10,
1837, at Newbury,
Windsor, Virginit;
Ipswich, Mass. 1861;
all in c. of
Suff. Pat. 16 Aug.
34 Car. 2 (1875),
Gaas. 20 Car. 2
North. Pat. 11 Sept. 27
1861, vice adm. of
1st foot guards
1861, vice adm. of
regiment of Hury St.
Edmond's 1664,
Car. 2 (1872), com-
manded at Cork in Ireland
Oct. 1864, 1865, 1866,
9 Oct. 1867, 1868,
1869.

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FITZ-
29 Feb.
16 May
of Tho-
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nare &
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ing, co.
13 Oct.
buried

LOTTE FITZ-
ROY, b. 5 Sep.
1669, ob. 17
Feb. 1717-8;
mar. 20 Feb.
1676; Edward
Henry (Lee),
1st earl of
Litchfield,
ob. 14 July
1716.

†

LEE, EARL
OF LITCH-
FIELD, co.
Staff. ext.
1776.

18

CHARLES, 2d duke of Grafton, only child, born at Arlington house, London, 23 Oct. 1683, lord lieut. of co. Suffolk 1705, lord lieut. of Ireland 1720, K. G. 1721, lord chamberlain 1724, recorder of Coventry 1724, hereditary lord warden of Whittlebury forest, his majesty's gamekeeper at Newmarket, &c., ob. in London, 6 May, bur.* 13 May 1757, et. 73.

HENRIETTA, d. of Charles marquis of Worcester, s. & h. app.
of Henry 1st duke of Beaufort, b. 27 Aug. 1690, mar. at Chel-
sea, co. Middx. 30 Ap. 1713, ob. 9 Aug. bur. * 17 Sept. 1726.

1. CHARLES HENRY earl of Euston, b. 13 April 1714; ob. Dec. 1715.	2. GEORGE earl of Eus- ton, b. 24 Aug. 1715, M. P. for Coventry 1737 to 1747, ob. v. p. & s. p. at Bath 7 July, bur. 10 20 July 1747; mar. 10 Oct. 1741, Dorothy, eld- est d. & coh. of Richard 3d earl of Burlington & Cork, by Dorothy, d. & coh. of William (Saville) marquis of Halifax, b. 14 May 1724, ob. 2 May, bur. * 6 May 1742.	3. FR 16 ca fo to m 17 in 25
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AGUSTUS	ELIZABETH	—2 h. JAMES	4. CHAR
ITZRO, b.	Aug. of col.	JEFFREYS	FITZRO
Oct. 17, 16	William	of co. Den-	28 Apr
apt. R. No.	Cosby, of	high, esq.	1718,
for Theat	Strodd, in	m. 24 Dec.	unm. a
1738-9	Ireland,	1747, ob.	lan 29
1740-1:	governor	1739,
ar. March	New York,		19 Mar
33-4, ob.	ob. in Holl		1739-46
Jamaica	street, Lon		5. HEN
May 1741	don, 21 Dec.		FITZRO
	1788.		26 Mar
			20 Nov
			3 Dec.

LES	1. HEN-	2. CAROLINA, born	4.
ry, b.	RIETTA,	8 April 1722, ob.	1722
il	born 17	26 June 1784; mar.	17
ob.	Jan.bu*	11 Aug. 1746, Wil-	17
15 Feb.		liam 2d earl of Har-	17
July	1730-1.	rington, b. 18 Dec.	17
bur.*	3. HEN-	1719, ob. 1 April	17
ry,	RIETTA,	1779.	17
b. 6 Jun.			17
1723,			17
ry, b.	Aug.* 7		17
bu.*	1735.		17
1723,			17

ISABELLA, b. 19 July 1729, lady of bedchamber to the queen, ob. 10 Nov. 182, bur. at Ragley, co. arw.; m: 29 May 1741, Francis Seymour (Conway), 1st marquis of Hertford, K. G., b. 1719, ob. 4 June 1794, æt. 75.

SEYMOUR CONWAY,
MARQUIS OF HERTFORD.

This image shows a blank, aged, cream-colored page, likely an endpaper or flyleaf of a book. The paper has a slightly textured appearance with some minor creases and discoloration, characteristic of old paper. The left edge of the page is bound, showing the inner hinge and some of the adjacent page. There is no text or other markings on the page.

Reginald de Roeng, by a deed which may be assigned to the reign of Henry III. granted to the abbey of St. James 5s. 6d. yearly rent out of a virgate of land in Alderton which the religious brothers of Grafton held of him, rendering 18d. yearly to the chief lord^a; and William de Bonde of Alderton remitted to the brethren of St. Mary and St. Michael of Grafton the 18d. yearly rent which Cumyn was bound to render him for this virgate in Alderton^b.

MASTERS. *Richard de Hereleston*, chaplain, presented by the bishop of Lincoln to the cure of the hermitage of Grafton and inst. 16 May 1267.

Walter Feusle, chaplain, presented by John de Wyvile of Grafton, and inst. 30 June 1284.

Adam de Kaversfeld, priest, presented to the chapel of the hermitage of Grafton, and inst. 21 July 1313.

William de Radeford, priest, presented by John de Wydevill of Grafton, to the chapel of St. Michael called the hermitage of Grafton and inst. 16 July 1340.

Simon de Olney, priest, presented by Richard de Wydvill of Grafton, and inst. 28 June 1349.

Walter Child, priest, presented by the bishop by lapse, to the chantry of the hermitage of St. Michael of Grafton, and inst. 28 Apr. 1373.

No more institutions occur in the episcopal registers of Lincoln; and no further mention of this hermitage can be retrieved until 13 Hen. 6 (1434) when Thomas Widerill, esq. by his will directed his feoffees to convey it with other lands, on certain conditions, to the abbey of St. James near Northampton*. Accordingly Nicholas Wymbush clerk and the other feoffees in Sept. 21 Hen. 6 (1442) granted to abbot William and the convent of St. James, all the hermitage of Grafton near Alderton, the wood called "la Shawode" (in Stoke Bruern), the manor of Avescote (Ascote), with all lands and services in Avescote, Patteshull, Darlescote, and Dorscote in the county of Northampton, and in Figeldon in Wiltshire, to hold according to the tenor and form of the last will of Thomas Widevill^c. Anthony earl Rivers dispossessed the abbot, and his will made 23 June 1483, the day before his execution, has this clause, "Also I will that all such lond as I purchasid by the meane of Syr Jamys Molaynes preest, remayn'd still w^t the man' of Grafton toward the fynding of the preest of tharmitage^d." In Dec. following (1 Ric. 3) Roger Wake, esq. of (Blisworth) sheriff of the county of Northampton and John Wake, esq. certified that they had received the king's letters in these words: "Richard be the grace of God kyng of Englonde and of Fraunce and lord of Irland to the shireff of our counte of Northampton and to all other our officers and ministres ther greting—forasmooche as we understonde that Antony lorde Rivers late decessed wrongfully a yensit right put owit and disseased our dayly oratours and bedemen the abbott and convent off the monastrie of Seint James be syde Northampton of certein londes and tenemets, that is to sey, the hermitage of Grafton, Shawode, the maner of Avescote, and other londes and tenemens rentis reñions and servis in Ednescote, Patteshull, Darlescote and Doscote wythe ther appurtinancies wheresoev^e they be in the countie of Northampton, and in Figelden in the counte of Wiltes or ellys wher wyche the seyde abbott and convent of right according to our lawes ought for to have as they have clerly shewed and provyd before the lordes of our counsell. We therfore wyllyng equite and justice to be had wylle and comaunde you and eche of you that ye see our seide abbott and convent be restored to their possession a yene a cording to ther former title. Wherin ye shall do us right singular plesur. Yeven at London the xth day of Decembre^e the first yere of our regne." And under this authority the said sheriff and John Wake, esq. with the counsel and assistance of John Catesby one of the king's justices, sir Walter Mauntell, William Catesby esquire of the body to the king, John Catesby, Richard Knyghtley, William Hartwell, William Wake, Robert Pemberton, Thomas Harwedon, and John Peeke esquires, and other faithful men of the king, entered and took possession of the hermitage of Grafton, &c. for John Wykeley the abbot, and the convent of the said monastery, and delivered seisin thereof to their attorney. To this document is appended the seals of the different parties attached to slips labelled with their respective names^e.

GRAFTON PARK was an ancient appendage to the manor house or palace, and contained about 995 acres, of which about one third is in Grafton parish, another third in Potterspurty and Yardley Gobion, and the remainder in Alderton and Paulerspury parishes. It was subdivided into two parks, commonly called Grafton Park and Pury Park, and Bridges has placed his account of it under POTTERSPURTY^a. There were two lodges for keepers—more recently known as Grafton Lodge and Pury Park Lodge—and hence probably arose the above division which was recognised in the time of King Henry VIII. for amongst his privy purse expenses^b when at Grafton in Sept. 1531, is "paied to the keeper of Grafton parke in reward vij^s. viij^d." and, "paied to the keeper of Potterspurty parke xi^s. iij^d." These terms have been since confounded or used indiscriminately; for though the families of Harbord and Sharp resided at Pury Park Lodge, they are frequently described in deeds as of Grafton Park.

The park or parks occupied the entire intervening space between Grafton and the Watling street, or Chester road, and communicated with Whittlebury forest near the Gullet. It was stocked with deer, and intersected by rectilinear avenues of noble oaks. These have long since been sacrificed to agricultural improvement, and the whole converted into farms; but an old inhabitant of Grafton remembers portions of the park paling reaching almost to the village.

In 16 Car. (1640-1) the king granted to Thomas Marsham of London, esq. and Ferdinand Marsham gent. the office of custos of the parks "called Grafton Parke and Potterspurty Parke," parcel of the honor of Grafton, for life, with a stipend of 2d. per diem for each park with the herbage and pannage of the parks, and the browsing wood, windfall wood, and dead wood and the reversion of the offices to Edward earl of Dorset chamberlain of queen Henrietta Maria, for life^c. Three years afterwards, the king, subject to the above grant, in consideration of £7000, conveyed "all that park or parks called Grafton Park and Potterspurty Park and all lands and tithes whatsoever included therein, with liberty to dispark the same," to

^a Br. MSS. E. p. 403.

^b Ibid. p. 402.

^c Fernor evidences.

^d Br. 1, p. 319.

^e Excerpta Historica, p. 246.

^a Pat. 19 Mar. 16 Car. 1.

^b Vide p. 162.

King Richard the third was crowned in June 1483; and so early as October following, simultaneous insurrections being organised against him in the western and southern counties, Richard, after providing for the security of London hastened into the North to raise additional forces, and being joined by the earl of Northumberland and other noblemen he advanced into Northamptonshire with his army, and on the 19th of that month halted at *Grafton* ready to move in such direction as circumstances might render most expedient.

King Henry the eighth being desirous of obtaining a divorce from his queen, Catharine of Arragon, made application to pope Clement for that purpose, who issued a commission to cardinals Campeggio and Wolsey to try and determine the cause. Accordingly the king and queen were cited before them in June 1529, and the king's council closed their case in July; but, instead of proceeding to judgment, Campeggio adjourned the court to September, and in the meantime the pope sent an evocation of the cause to himself at Rome, inhibiting any further proceedings by the legates, and Campeggio prepared to leave the kingdom. His last interview with the king took place at *Grafton*, and is described with such minuteness and simplicity by Cavendish the faithful attendant and biographer of Wolsey who accompanied his brother cardinal, that it would be unpardonable to alter or abridge it.

"The King commanded the Queen to be removed out of Court and sent to another place, and his highness rode in his progress with Mistress Anne Boleyn in his company, all the greece [hunting] season.

"It was so that the Cardinal Campeggio made suit to be discharged, that he might return again to Rome. And it chanced that the Secretary, who was the King's ambassador to the Pope, was returned home from Rome; whereupon it was determined that the Cardinal Campeggio should resort to the King at *Grafton* in Northamptonshire, and that my lord Cardinal should accompany him thither, where Campeggio should take his leave of the King. And so they took their journey thitherward from the Moor [Moor hall in Hertfordshire], and came to *Grafton* upon the Sunday in the morning, before whose coming there rose in the Court divers opinions, that the King would not speak with my Lord Cardinal, and thereupon were laid many great wagers.

"These two Prelates being come to the Gates of the Court where they alighted from their Horses, supposing that they should have been received by the Head Officers of the House as they were wont to be; yet, forasmuch as Cardinal Campeggio was but a stranger in effect, the said Officers received them, and conveyed him to his lodging within the Court which was prepared for him only. And after my Lord had brought him thus to his Lodging, he left him there and departed, supposing to have gone directly likewise to his Chamber as he was accustomed to do. And by the way as he was going, it was told him that he had no lodging appointed for him in the Court. And being there-with astonished, Sir Henry Norris, Groom of the Stole [to] the King, came unto him (but whether it was by the King's commandment or no I know not), and most humbly offered him his Chamber for the time, until another might somewhere be provided for him: 'For, Sir, I assure you,' quoth he, 'here is very little room in this House, scanty sufficient for the King; therefore I beseech your Grace to accept mine for the Season.' Whom my Lord thanked for his gentle offer, and went straight to his Chamber, where as my Lord shifted his riding apparel and being there in his Chamber, divers Noble persons and Gentlemen being his loving friends, came to visit him and to welcome him to the Court, by whom the Lord was advertized of all things touching the King's displeasure towards him; which did him no small pleasure; and caused him to be the more readily provided of sufficient excuses for his defence.

"There was my Lord advertized by Master Norris, that he should prepare himself to give attendance in the Chamber of presence against the King's coming thither, who was disposed there to talk with him, and with the other Cardinal, who came into my Lord's Chamber, and they together went into the said Chamber of presence, where the Lords of the Council stood in a row in order along the Chamber. My Lord putting off his Cap to every of them most gently, and so did they no less to him: at which time the Chamber was so furnished with Noblemen, Gentlemen, and other worthy persons, that only expected the meeting, and the countenance of the King and him, and what entertainment the King made him.

"Then immediately after came the King into the Chamber, and standing there under the Cloth of Estate, my Lord kneeled down before him, who took my Lord by the hand, and so he did the other Cardinal. Then he took my Lord up by both arms and caused him to stand up, whom the King, with as amiable a cheer as ever he did, called him aside and led him by the hand to a great window, where he talked with him, and caused him to be covered.

"Then to behold the countenance of those that had made their wagers to the contrary, it would have made you to smile; and thus were they all deceived, as well worthy for their presumption. The King was in long and earnest communication with him, in so much as I heard the King say: 'How can that be, is not this your own hand,' and plucked out from his bosom a letter or writing; and showed him the same, and as I perceived that it was answered so by my Lord that the King had no more to say in that matter; but said to him, 'My lord, go to your dinner and all my Lords here will keep you company, and after dinner I will resort to you again and then we will commune further with you in this matter;' and so departed the King, and dined that same day with Mrs. Anne Boleyn in her chamber, who kept there an estate more like a queen than a simple maid.

"Then was a table set up in the chamber of Presence for my Lord, and other Lords of the Council, where they all dined together, and sitting thus at dinner communing of divers matters, quoth my Lord, 'it were well done if the King would send his Chaplains and Bishops to their cures and benefices.' 'Yea! marry,' quoth my Lord of Norfolk, 'and so it were for you too.' 'I could be contented therewith very well,' quoth my Lord, 'if it were the King's pleasure to grant me licence with his favor to go to my benefice of Winchester.' 'Nay,' quoth my Lord of Norfolk, 'to your benefice of York, where consisteth your greatest honour and charge.' 'Even as it shall please the King,' quoth my Lord, and so fell into other communications. For the Lords were very loth to have him planted so near the King, as to be at Winchester. Immediately after dinner they fell in secret talk until the waiters had dined.

"And as I heard it reported by them that waited upon the King at dinner, that Mrs. Anne Boleyn was much offended with the King as far as she durst, that he so gently entertained my Lord, saying as she sat with the King at dinner in communication of him, 'Sir,' quoth she, 'is it not a marvellous thing to consider what debt and danger

the Cardinal hath brought you in with all your subjects.' 'How so, Sweetheart,' quoth the King. 'Forsooth,' quoth she, 'there is not a man within all your realm worth five pounds but he hath indebted you unto him,' (meaning by a Loan that the King had but late of his subjects). 'Well, well,' quoth the King, 'as for that there is in things hath he wrought within this realm to your great slander and dishonour? There is never a Nobelman within this Realm that, if he had done but half so much as he hath done, but he were well worthy to lose his head. If my Lord of Norfolk, my Lord of Suffolk, my Lord my father, or any other noble person within your realm had done less than he, but they should have lost their Heads or [ere] this.' 'Why, then I perceive,' quoth the King, 'ye are not the Cardinal's friend.' 'Forsooth, Sir,' then quoth she, 'I have no cause, nor any other that loveth you and so they ended their communication. Now ye may perceive the old malice beginning to break out, and newly to touch something before, as of herself.

"After all this communication, the Dinner thus ended, the King rose up and went incontinent into the Chamber of presence, where as my Lord and other of the Lords were attending his coming, he called my Lord into the great window and talked with him there awhile very secretly. And at the last the King took my Lord by the hand and led him into his privy Chamber, sitting there in consultation with him all alone without any other of the Lords of the Council, until it was night; the which blanked his Enemies very sore, and made them to stir the Coals; in being in doubt what this matter would grow unto, having now none other refuge to trust to but Mistress Anne, in whom was all their whole and firm trust and alliance, without whom they doubted all their enterprize but frustrate and void.

"Now was I fain, being warned that my Lord had no lodging in the Court, to ride into the Country to provide for my Lord a Lodging; so that I provided a Lodging for him at a House of Master Empson's, called Euston [Easton Neston], three miles from Grafton, whither my Lord came by torch light, it was so late or [ere] the King and he departed. At those departing the King commanded him to resort again early in the Morning to the intent they might finish their talk which they had then begun and not concluded.

"After their departing my Lord came to the said House at Euston [Easton Neston] to his Lodging, where he had to supper with him divers of his friends of the Court; and sitting at supper, in came to him Doctor Stephens the Secretary, late Ambassador unto Rome; but to what intent he came I know not; howbeit my Lord took it, that he came to dissemble a certain obedience and love towards him, or else to spy his behaviour and to hear his communication at Supper. Notwithstanding my Lord bade him welcome, and commanded him to sit down at the table to supper; with whom my Lord had this communication, under this manner. 'Master Secretary,' quoth my Lord, 'ye be welcome home out of Italy; when came ye from Rome?' 'Forsooth,' quoth he, 'I came home almost a month ago.' 'And where,' quoth my Lord, 'have you been ever since?' 'Forsooth,' quoth he, 'following the Court this progress.' 'Then have ye hunted, and had good game and pastime,' quoth my Lord? 'Forsooth, Sir,' quoth he, 'and so I have, I thank the King's Majesty.' 'What good Greyhounds have ye?' quoth my Lord? 'I have some, Sir,' quoth he. And thus in hunting and like disports passed they all their communication at Supper, and after Supper my Lord and he talked secretly together till it was midnight or [ere] they departed.

"The next morning my Lord rose early and rode straight to the Court; at whose coming the King was ready to ride, willing my Lord to resort to the Council with the Lords in his absence, and said he could not tarry with him, commanding him to return with Cardinal Campegio, who had taken his leave of the King. Whereupon my Lord was constrained to take his leave also of the King, with whom the King departed amiably in the sight of all men. The King's sudden departing in the Morning was by the special labour of Mistress Anne, who rode with him only to lead him about because he should not return until the Cardinals were gone, the which departed after Dinner returning again towards the Moor [in Hertfordshire].

"The King rode that morning to view a ground for a new Park, which is called at this day Hartwell Park, where Mistress Anne had made provision for the King's Dinner, fearing his return or [ere] the Cardinals were gone.

"Then rode my Lord and the other Cardinal after Dinner on their way homeward, and so came to the Monastery of St. Albans (whereof he himself was commendatory) and there lay one whole day; and the next day they rode to the Moor; and from thence the Cardinal Campegio took his Journey towards Rome, with the King's reward; what it was I am uncertain."

It appears from the "Privy Purse Expences of King Henry the 8th from Nov. 1529 to Decr 1532," edited by the able and indefatigable sir Harris Nicolas, that the king visited Grafton twice within that period to enjoy the pleasures of the chase. He came here from Woodstock on the 5th of Sept. 1531, and the same day was paid "to Mr. Spenser's *svant* in rewarde for bringing bromes to Grafton *iiij*s. viijd." These brooms were doubtless from Wicken park, then one of the seats of the Spencers of ALTHORP. Various payments occur the next day. The first is the most curious, and communicates the fact of a foreign embassy unnoticed by all our historians. "the *vj* day (Sept) paid to Vaughan grome of the Chambré for the charge of the Ambassadors of hungarye at Stony Stratford when they cam to the Kinge grace to Grafton *xvj*s. viijd." "The same daye paid to *ij* pouer women that were heled of their sikenes *xvj*s." "This entry," the editor remarks, "is strongly indicative of the superstition of the age—persons "touched for evil" received 7s. and in these three years there were fifty-nine touched. They came wherever his Majesty was, whether in town, or on his progresses, and even at Calais." "the same day paid to a *svant* of the mayor of Northampton in rewarde for bringing peres to the kinge grace to Grafton *vs*." "the same daye paid to a pouer woman that gave the kinge grace peres and nutts in the forest *iiij*s. viijd." "the same daye paid to sir Robert Bone *vjs*eer of the warke at Grafton for reparacions done there *xli*." All the entries on the *vijth* Sept. are gratuities: "to the keeper of Grafton parke in Rewarde *vij*s. *vjd*," "to the keeper of Pottersperry parke *xij*s. *ijjd*," "to Cokks the foteman, Humfrey Raynezford, and Wat, by the kinge commaundement *xx*," "to the keeper of hanslop parke in rewarde *vij*s. *vjd*," "to the rangers of the Shrobbre, hanley and Wakefelde [walks in Whittlebury forest] *x*," "to the *ij*

kept of the same xx^s." The gratuities are continued on the viijth Sept.: "to the kep^r, of Norton Wodde and husill borowe [walk in Whittlebury forest] xiij^s. iiij^d." "to Wiltm A Kent keeper of the Shrobbes vij^s. viij^d." "to the keeper of the new parke of hartwell vij^s. vj^d." "to the keeper of Whittell Wod in rewarde vij^s. vj^d. No entry is made on the ixth Sept. "The x daye (Sept.) paid to a pouer man that cam oute of Wales v^s." "the same daye paid to one that brought the kinge grace a brace of greyhounde oute of Wales xx^s." "the same daye paid to Anthony Anthony for a Clocke in a case of Golde x^s. x^d." "the same daye paid to Xp^ofer mylloner for ij knyves and ij shethes of vellute and gyrdelle to them 1^s." On the xith Sept. the king departed, and there was "paid for a carte to cary the houndes from Grafton to Antyll [Amptill in Bedfordshire] after xv myles vij^s. vj^d."

On the king's second visit, the order of his progress was reversed. He arrived here on the xxixth July 1532, and there was "paid to humfrey Raynezford removing w^t the carte w^t houndes from Antyll to Grafton vij^s. iiij^d." "the same daye paid to the smythe that caryeth the locke about w^t the king in rewarde vij^s. vj^d." "the last daye paid to the french fletcher [arrow maker], in rewarde by the kinge comaundement iij^l. vij^s. viij^d." "the same daye paid by the kinge comaundement to a monke that brought a fre [letter] an a purse to the kinge grace to grafton xx^s." The next entry is "the furste daye of August paid to peter ffawconer for his cote by the kinge comaunde xxij^s. vj^d." "the same daye paid by lyke comaundement to Matthew the fawconer for his cote xxij^s. vj^d." "the iijth daye (Aug.) paid to my lorde fiersers' s^vant in rewarde for bringing of a hounde to the kinge grace to Grafton x^s." "the same daye paid by the kinge comaunde michell pylleson that gave an Angle-rodde unto the kinge grace at Grafton xv^s." On the vth Aug. the day before the king departed, the following gratuities are entered: "to the kep of Anspole parke in Rewarde by the kinge comaundement vij^s. vj^d." "to the kep of Pottersbury in Rewarde by lyke comaundement vij^s. vj^d." "to the keeper of hartwell parke by lyke comaundement in Rewarde vij^s. vj^d." "to the lieuten^t of Whitywood by the kinge comaundement in rewarde x^s." "to the kep of the shrobbes by lyke comande vij^s. vj^d." "to the keeper of Grafton pke in rewarde by the kinge comande vij^s. vj^d." "to the lieuten^t of the Forrest of sawey in rewarde by the kinge comande x^s." "to the ij keepers of the Forrest of Sawey in Rewarde by the king's comaundement xxij^s. vj^d." The Grafton account closes with "the vi day (Aug.) paid to Humfrey Raynezford for bringing the carte w^t the hounde fro grafton unto Wodstok iij^s. vj^d." "the same daye paid to the said humfrey wat. doddsworth and Raulfe Mondy in rewarde xv^s." "the same daye paid in prest upon his wages to James Pulter xv^s." "the same daye paid to the gardyn^r of Beaulie [qu. Hants?] in rewarde for bringing Cocum^s [cucumbers] to the king vij^s. vj^d." "the same daye paid to Mais^r Russell for Reparacions by him done at Grafton xxxij^s. iiij^d." "the same daye paid to wylm knevet for his Anuyte for one quarter ended at Midson^r v^l." "the same daye in rewarde to a s^vant of my lord lennarde for bringing a hound to the king xx^s." "the vj daye paid to the keeper of Maister Spencer pke [at Wicken] in rewarde by the kinge comaundement vij^s. viij^d." "the same daye paid to the keepers wif of Maister Spencer parke in rewarde vj^s. viij^d." And "the same daye paid to henry Byrde for making prycke at Antyll and at Grafton by the kinge comaundement vj^s. viij^d." Pricks were the points or marks in the centre of the butts in archery.

Queen Elizabeth in one, and but one, of her progresses—in 1568—was at Grafton.

In the reign of king Charles I., Grafton house was occupied by the illustrious family of Clifford earl of Cumberland, as a convenient resting place on their transit from the North to London. The historian of Craven, in his ingenious illustrations of the household accounts of earl Francis between the years 1634 and 1638, observes that "baked meats were more in use two centuries ago than now; and when a part of the Clifford family resided at Grafton in Northamptonshire, not only pasties of red deer venison were sent thither by express from Skipton; but carcases of stags, two, four, or more, at once, were baked whole, and dispatched to the same place." Amongst the items of expence are, for three bushels of wheat to bake two stags 15^s; for currants and limons which they put in the stag pies; and, to William Townley for 6lb. & 1 oz. of pepper for baking a stag sent to Grafton; for another sent to Westmoreland and Cumberland for the assizes, and one bestowed by my lord in the country upon divers persons 18^s. 8^d.

In December 1643 the Parliamentarians were in possession of Northampton; and the Royalists of Grafton House, and Towcester. Towards the close of this month a re-inforcement of cavalry was ordered to join lord Manchester's infantry at Newport Pagnell in Buckinghamshire in order to co-operate with the Northampton forces, and effect, if possible, the expulsion of their enemies from Grafton and Towcester; which was the more desirable, as it would facilitate the passage of the ammunition intended for Gloucester, but unloaded and detained at Northampton because a sufficient body of troops could not be spared for its escort. "Sergeant-major-general Skippon" with the London trained bands and the Newport troops, joined by a detachment from Northampton, amounting altogether to nearly three thousand men, stormed Grafton—a house, says "The Weekly Account," which belonged to Her Majesty of great value, and described in the "Mercurius Civicus" as a place of great strength and consequence. According to the former authority sir John Digby (not long since escaped from the Fleet) and sir Edward Longueville were taken prisoners and five colonels more, besides above three hundred common soldiers, six hundred arms, six pieces of ordnance, eighty horses and good plunder. The Mercurius corresponds with it, except in stating the number of prisoners to be above five hundred. Both statements, however, are much exaggerated, as appears from

"A true Relation of the Taking of Grafton House by the Parliaments Forces under the Command of Sergeant Major Skipton [Skippon] With the Demands of Sir John Digby upon a surrender. And the Resolute Answer of Sergeant Major Skipton to the said demands, As it was sent in a Letter from a Commander to his Friend in London. With the Names of the Chief Commanders that were taken Prisoners, &c. Printed for John Wright in the Old Bailey December 29, 1643.

"Sir, I thought good to relate unto you the service lately performed here in these parts. On Thursday night last (21 Dec.) about eight a clocke there was command given for a party of a thousand foot or thereabouts to be ready to march the next morning by two of the clocke; whereupon they met at the Rendezvouse at Lathbury a mile

here hence, where a brave party of horse of our owne & Colonell Norwiche's mett with us and were our Van and Rear-guard, so we marcht with foure pieces of Artillery, towards Grafton Regis, six miles off from this place; where we understood that our enemies were inclosed in a strong house of the Ladie Craines* and the Church of the same Towne; whereupon we faced it & leaving it on our right hand we marcht forward towards Toxiter Tow-Colonnell Wettam, whereupon we faced about, and the party of the Orange Regiment which before brought up the Rear then marcht in the Van and Colonell Williams Forces followed in the Reare of the party that came from Newport. But when we came within sight of the house the old souldiers of my Lord's outmarcht us, and gave the onset on the house very courageously and were as bravely answered; and by reason of the strength of the walls and well fortifying of the same our Musquetiers did them small injury at that time; whereupon there were two of our pieces planted against the house and played upon it, but they did not much annoy them neither. On the Saturday morning (23 Dec.) the Orange and Greene Regiments relieved my Lord's souldiers, and when any advantage could be gained against our Enemies we made use of it. They within had very long pieces, and could reach us at a distance. At our guard we having found a convenient place to plant a piece made use of it & beat down with our Sacre before Saturday night a breast work on the top of the house which had done us much annoyance, and also a window wherat they shot out at us. On Sunday morning (24 Dec.) we were relieved by those Northampton forces under the command of Colonell Wettam, and about two hours after he had the gaurd, they within sounded a parley, but through the eagerness of the Souldiers the Drum was shot, but not slaine out right; whereupon they sent out a Trumpet, and had in number Ninescore and seven besides Officers, whereof Sir John Digby was chief; there was another Officer of are to me unknown. About two of the Clocke on Sunday the Souldiers entered the house, where they found great and rich plunder which they had for their pains. In the taking of this house we lost about 20 men, and had hurt about 10, besides 9 that were hurt by our own powder. On Christmas day (Monday) before day, order was given to fire our huts which we had made in the field; and for prevention of future inconveniences the house was fired also: so we marcht with our prisoners (gaurded by the other forces that assisted us) towards Newport, very weary by reason of the foulness of the weather, and deepnesse of the way, but praised be God we got safely thither, where we now lye expecting relief every day, that we may come and rest ourselves. I thank God that neither myself, nor any of my souldiers are hurt, nor not one of our Regiment slaine, notwithstanding we were in great danger & hazard. I beseech God make us thankful for this preservation of us: there were some that came to us on our gaurd as spectators, being a surveyor of the works and a Captain of a Troope of Horse, slaine at one shot, and also a Gunner that belonged to the Sacre in our gaurd. I pray remember my love to my neighbours, with my best respects unto you I rest. Your loving friend & neighbour, W. B. Newport Pannel, 25 December 1643.

"Sir John Digby his demands.—Sir. As we are determined to carry ourselves like gentlemen and men of honour, so if you will please to consent to conditions fit for such, we shall surrender this place unto you. The conditions we desire are these: 1. That we may march forth with our Arms Horses and Baggage, and as well those that have not borne Arms, as those that have, may march forth to Oxford in the aforesaid manner without any violence to be offered till they arrive at Oxford; and have a safe conduct to Banbury. 2. That both the Souldiers and the People of the house may have two dayes liberty after the surrender of the place, to carry away their goods, and the Carts of the Country allowed them in; and the Souldiers may have sixe houres liberty, and (in) the house to remove Bag and Baggage, if you consent that this be made good by those that are here, JOHN DIGBY.

"Major Generall Skiptons Answer. 1. To surrender all your persons prisoners, and all Arms Horses Standards Colours and all Provisions of Warre whatsoever with all that is within the house. 2. That you deliver all those Souldiers of ours which have been taken prisoners by you, and that if any of your Souldiers Prisoners taken by us that your Souldiers shall expect the like usage from me. 3. And these things being performed, I shall preserve and set at liberty all Women Children and such other persons as have not bin in armes against us. 4. And all these to be performed by you in one houre, or else present advertisement within one quater of an houre after the delivery of these Articles. PHILIP SKIPTON.

"The names of those that are taken prisoners of the Horse. Sir John Digby, Major Brookbanck, Captaine John Clerke, Captaine Longfield [Longueville], Lieutenant Longfield [Longueville], Quatermaster Colenrigge, Corporall Thorogood, Corporall Haynes, Quatermaster Doswell [Boswell], and 80 Troopers all with Swords Pistols & Carbinies. Prisoners taken of the Foot. Captaine Bullar, Two Ensignes, one Ensigne Owner, Lieutenant Wacham, Lieutenant Bigley. Besides many other Gentlemen that came voluntarily, Henry Ratcliffe, An Ensigne Reformado, Archdeacon Bealey, Parson Banning [Bunning], Parson Crompton, and 100 Foot Armed with musquets."

If another of these scarce little tracts deposited in the British Museum by the liberality of king George III. may be credited, Skippon's primary object was to seize on Towcester, but being informed when he approached within a mile that it was more strongly fortified and garrisoned than he had been led to expect, he retired, and on his return to Newport, attacked Grafton house, which was commanded by sir John Digby, a papist, brother of sir Kenelm Digby, and son of sir Everard Digby who was executed as one of the ringleaders of the Gunpowder Plot. From Grafton, sir John was conveyed to London and imprisoned in the Tower, but regaining his liberty he again joined the army, and was killed at the battle of Longport in Somersetshire in 1645, after having expended £25,000 in support of the royal cause. "If any ask," says the Parliament Scout, "why sir John Digby yielded Grafton house so soon; it is answered, the women and children cried, and the souldiers within would not fight: if it be asked, why the house was burnt; it is answered, it is not known why, nor who did it."

Its ruined walls were never re-built, and what remained of this once noble mansion was henceforth occupied by the tenant of the manor farm. It has recently been partially modernised, and fitted up for the residence of capt. George Fitzroy, second son of the late lord Charles Fitzroy.

* This lady was widow of sir Francis Crane of Stoke park, and rented this house of the crown.

THE VILLAGE is on the summit of a hill nine miles south of Northampton on the turnpike road to Stony Stratford. Bridges has omitted its population. By the census of 1801, it contained 31 houses and 167 inhabitants; by that of 1811, 34 houses and 181 inhabitants; by that of 1821, 42 houses and 214 inhabitants; and by that of 1831, 47 houses and 241 inhabitants, including part of Salcey forest said to be extra-parochial, but included in the area of Grafton parish. The annual quota of land tax for this parish is £175. 10s. 1d. at 4s. in the £. The estimated value of real property as assessed to the property tax of 10 *per cent.* for the year ending April 1815, amounted to £2247. The poor's rates for the year ending Easter 1832 raised £291. 10s. at 5s. in the £. The wake follows the assumption of the blessed Virgin.

MARKET AND FAIRS. In 7 Edw. 4 (1467) the earl Rivers obtained a grant of a weekly market at "Grafton Wideville" every Thursday, and two annual fairs, one, on the vigil, day, and morrow of St. Margaret, and the other on the vigil, day, and morrow of St. Simon and St. Jude^s. By the act of resumption in 1 Hen. 7 (1485) the grant of this market and these fairs was (int. al.) specially exempted^b; but they have long since sunk into desuetude.

THE ADVOWSON was included in the donation of the manor from William earl of Moreton to the abbey of Grestein; and subsequently passed with it to sir Michael de la Pole^a, afterwards earl of Suffolk, but was severed from it on the settlement made on his younger sons; for in 14 Ric. 2 (1390) the advowsons of Grafton and Bugbrook, late belonging to sir Michael de la Pole attainted, were granted (int. al.) to his brother sir Edmund de la Pole^b, by whom this advowson seems to have been conveyed to his nephew sir Richard de la Pole, who died in 5 Hen. 4 (1403) seised of the manor and advowson of Grafton; when the manor, by virtue of the entail, devolved on his younger brother sir Thomas de la Pole, and the advowson on his elder brother and heir Michael 2d earl of Suffolk^c; from whom, on failure of the male line in his eldest son Michael 3d earl of Suffolk, it came to his younger son William duke of Suffolk, in whom it was re-united to the manor; and continued to attend it down to the grant by king Charles II. in trust for the first duke of Grafton^d, when it was reserved; and it is still vested in the crown.

THE RECTORY is in the deanry of Preston. It was rated in the taxations of 1254 (38 Hen. 3)^m and of 1291 (20 Edw. 1)ⁿ at 8 marks (£5. 6s. 8d.) *per ann.* and in the ecclesiastical survey of 1535 (26 Hen. 8) at £10. *per ann.* deducting 10s. 7d. for synodals and procurations to the archdeacon of Northampton^o. The parliamentary commissioners in 1655 certified it to be a parsonage presentative worth £50 yearly in the patronage of the lords commissioners of the great seal; that Mr. William Paine the incumbent received the profits and supplied the cure; and that Grafton was one mile distant from Alderton, and they thought it fit to be united to it^p. It is a discharged living, being certified under the act 5 Anne (1707) to be only of the clear yearly value of £19. 7s. 7½d. The rectory of Alderton was permanently annexed to Grafton in July 1774. Grafton rectory now consists of 12 a. 0r. 19p. of glebe land by exchange with the duke of Grafton under Alderton inclosure act; and moduses and compositions for the tithes to the amount of £68. 3s. 2½d. *per ann.*

The rectory house is at the south-east extremity of the village, and has been greatly improved by the present incumbent.

RECTORS. *William de Dray*, by the prior of Wilmington (Sussex) procurator of the abbot and convent of St. Mary of Grestein.

John de Grinstead, chaplain, 1 May 1282.

Simon de Bray, clerk, 18 Sept. 1288.

William de Beaumilla, deacon, 4 Nov. 1333.

Mast. John de Northflete, priest, 27 July 1334.

Mast. John Atte Gote, acolyte, 28 Jan. 1334-5.

Peter de Columber, 26 May 1335.

William Atte Wade, clerk, by the king, the temporalities of the priory of Wilmyngton being in his hands.

Philip de Catesby, by Michael de la Pole, earl of Suffolk, occurs 1373.

John de Lyndale, clerk, 2 June 1387.

Henry Trevelyers.

John Boalde, priest, by William de la Pole, earl of Suffolk, 7 May 1438.

John Laybourne, priest, by feoffees of sir Richard Widevill, 15 July 1442.

Mast. Thomas Leson, priest, by sir Richard Widevill, Lord Rivers, 26 June 1462.

Sir Thomas Rawlyns, priest, by lady Jacquet de Luxembourg, duchess of Bedford, 29 Oct. 1471. He has been already noticed under Boughton.

Sir James Molyneux, priest, by Anthony Wydeville earl Rivers and [lord] Scales, 29 Nov. 1477.

Sir John Lambard, by the king, 18 Nov. 1484.

John Lambard, priest, by Richard Wodeville earl Ryvers, 1 Dec. 1485.

William Wyngmanthorpe, occurs rector 1535.

Edwarde Bune, rector of Furtho, was instituted 24 Oct. 1553, on the presentation of the queen.

John Cruar was inst. 8 Feb. 1563-4, on the decease of the last incumbent.

Lawrence Thorley. On his resignation

Anthony Greenacres was inst. 12 Dec. 1578.

John Ibbotson, of Christ coll. Camb. A.M. resigned the rectory of Walton in Buckinghamshire for this benefice^q, and was inst. 30 Aug. 1597.

Thomas Watson, A.M. was inst. 3 Dec. 1604 on the cession of the last incumbent. His resignation introduced

William Piets, A.M. who was inst. 10 Mar. 1609-10. He resigned within two years and

Thomas Austen, A.M. was inst. 18 Jan. 1611-2. He was succeeded by

Thomas Bunning, who was the "Parson Banning" taken prisoner in Grafton house when it was stormed by gene-

^a Cart. 5, 7 Edw. 4, n. 22.

^b Rot. Parl. vol. 6, p. 376.

^c Pat. 14 Ric. 2, p. 2, m. 30.

^d Eco. 5 Hen. 4, n. 39.

^e Pat. 21 Jan.

^f Car. 2, p. 8, n. 2.

^g Cotton MSS. Nero D x, fo. 180.

^h Tax. Eccl. p. 38.

ⁱ Augm. Off.

^j Lambeth MSS. vol. 20.

^k Br. Will's MSS.

^l Vide p. 161.

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ral Skippon. He was chaplain to lady Crane, and signed the register as curate in 1640; in which year he is erroneously stated to have been presented to the rectory of Ashton. The committee at Northampton ejected him from this living, and the vacancy was supplied by

William Paine, who occurs in the return of the parliamentary commissioners in 1655. Walker describes Bunting as a "learned young man, and a very good preacher, of good life and deserts in other respects;" and asserts that Paine "was a very illiterate fellow, of no desert or competent abilities" and "had been a horsekeeper to Mr. James vicar of Fyfield [rector of Tidfield] after whose death he obtained a licence to read prayers under old Mr. Markes the rector of Gaizon."

William Harrison, vicar or perpetual curate of Roade, was inst. 9 Nov. 1681.

Humphrey Drake, of Brazenose coll. Oxf. A.M. was inst. 18 June 1698. His resignation introduced

John Austin, of Univ. coll. Oxf. A.M. previously noticed under Alderton, who was inst. 6 June 1721. He was buried here 16 Nov. 1764*, and

Robert Harding, jun. was inst. 15 Jan. 1765. He held the united rectories of Grafton and Alderton, with the vicarage of Potterspury till his death, and was buried at the latter place 13 July 1790, when he was succeeded in his rectories by

John Bright, of Pembroke coll. Camb. A.M. already noticed under Alderton, who was inst. 9 June 1792. On his decease

Frederick Thomas William Coke Fitzroy, of Magd. coll. Camb. A.M. was inst. 10 Sept. 1833 to the united rectories of Grafton and Alderton. He is first cousin to lord Southampton, and in 1834, subsequent to the pedigree introduced under WHITLEBURY*, married Emilia, daughter of Henry Styleman, of Snettisham in Norfolk, esq.

THE REGISTERS commence in 1584.

THE CHURCH, dedicated to the blessed Virgin, stands at the north-east end of the village, and consists of a tower, containing three bells, nave, south porch, north aisle and chapel, and chancel. The tower and body of the church are of indifferent masonry; the windows of the nave and aisle are of two lights, some with a quatrefoil in the head, and others with two elongated trefoils. The chancel is of better materials and workmanship. The east window has four lights, the mullions simply crossing in the head without tracery. The tower is 15 ft. 9 in. long by 10 ft. wide; the nave and aisle 46 ft. 7 in. long, the nave 16 ft. 5 in. and the aisle 15 ft. 11 in. wide; the north chapel 12 ft. by 14 ft.; and the chancel 24 ft. 5 in. by 15 ft. 6 in. The interior is of a much earlier character than the exterior. The nave is divided from the aisle by four wide pointed arches connected by a general dripstone with the hatched moulding, and supported on low circular pillars with capitals of plain mouldings. Under one of the arches, nearly opposite to the south door, is a circular Norman font, the basin surrounded by a row of intersecting arches. There is an ascent of three steps under a closed pointed arch from the nave to the tower. Some of the windows in the nave have the remains of painted glass. Between the nave and chancel was a richly painted screen, now decayed and mutilated, but on the right side entering the chancel, is still the figure, about two feet long, of St. Dionysius or Denys pontifically habited, holding his mitred head in his right hand, and over it "Sanctus Dionysius." The two chancel arches opening into the nave and north chapel, are both closed up.

MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS.

NORTH AISLE. I. Under a low monumental arch in the north wall, is a slab, on which is a cross partly hidden by a pew.

II. Nearly opposite to the last. Under one of the arches between the aisle and the nave, raised on a stone basement, is a free-stone altar tomb with a multangular pillar at each angle and in the centre, and divided into long narrow-arched compartments trefoil-headed. On the south side are four blank shields. The cornice has flowers and other ornaments at regular distances. On the covering slab are two rich crosses double-fleury.

III. To the two preceding uninscribed memorials for the Widesvilles is now to be added a fine free-stone altar tomb for a sir John Widesville. The epitaph is without date; but the style of the monument and the costume of the figure, admit of no hesitation in assigning it to sir John, grandfather of the first earl Rivers. The tomb is between four and five feet high, and the plinth very deep. The base has several sets of mouldings. The sides are divided into seven compartments by crocketed ogee arches with foliated finials, and the interval between the canopies filled with foliations springing from an arched stalk: the heads of the arches are cinquefoiled and feathered. The cornice is enriched with flowers and heads alternately. There are blank shields in the two end com-

partments. Bridges says, 'On the sides of this monument were shields of brass hung upon hooks. The hooks are still remaining *.' On the alabaster slab is engraved a remarkably fine full-sized figure of sir John Wydeville in a suit of plate armour, with his hands elevated and conjoined. To his conical basinet studded across the forehead, is attached a gorget of plate, edged with mail, and the upper part studded; circular pallethes in front of his arm pits and elbows; gauntlets, cuffed and jointed; tassettes of over-lapping plates edged with mail, and each lamina studded; jointed sollerets with pointed toes, and rowelled spurs. At his right side is an anelace or dagger with no apparent fastening, and at his left, a long sword suspended from a diagonally placed belt buckled in front. He has mustachios, but no beard. His head rests on an unusually large tilting helmet crested with a bird in a tree; and is supported on each side by a winged cherub. His feet are placed on a lion regardant. On each side of the figure is a blank shield, and round the verge of the slab is inscribed:

Prospiciante Deo qui Campanite precegit
John Wydevill sub eo sem lapis iste tegit
Prospiciat Deus q propiciando subueniat
Deo Deus ipse meus & tua Mater. Amen.

* Par. Reg.

* Br. i, p. 302.

* Vide p. 71.

NAVE. Slabs for

1. Thomas Haines, husband of Elizabeth H. 8 Nov. 1705.
2. Cross fluted on steps, but no inscription.

NORTH CHAPEL. Against the south wall is an elegant monument by Flaxman of white marble with dark veined back ground; on a rectangular tablet, flanked by two beautiful demi-sized figures of *Faith* and *Hope*, and over the cornice the arms and supporters of the earl of Euston, with an inescutcheon, per pale Ar. & G. *Waldegrave*, is inscribed:

TO THE MEMORY
OF CHARLOTTE MARIA, COUNTESS OF EUSTON,
SECOND DAUGHTER OF JAMES EARL OF WALDEGRAVE,
BORN OCT. the 11th 1761,
BURIED IN THIS CHURCH FEBRUARY the 5th 1808,
WHOSE VIRTUES RENDERED HER THE OBJECT
OF THE TENDEREST AFFECTION DURING LIFE
AND AFFORD THE MOST CONSOLING HOPES
OF HER ETERNAL HAPPINESS TO HER SURVIVING HUSBAND,
BY WHOM THIS MONUMENT IS ERECTED.
THE SUFFERINGS OF THIS PRESENT TIME, ARE NOT
WORTHY TO BE COMPARED WITH THE GLORY WHICH
SHALL BE REVEALED IN US.*

Romans, chap. 8, ver. 18.

CHANCEL. On small slabs:

2. Edward Nathaniel Hodges, 19 June 1786, æt. 12 weeks.
When the Archangel's trump shall blow
And Souls to Body join,
What crowds shall wish their Stay below
Had been as short as thine.
3. JOHANNES AUSTIN, A.M.
Hujus Ecclesie
Per Annos 43 Rector
Obiit
12 Nov. Anno 1761,
Ætat 73.
4. Hic
conduntur Reliquie
Catherine Uxoris
Johannis Austin
hujusce Parochie
Rectoris
Obiit 24 die Julii
A.D. 1752.
5. K. H.
WAS BURIED
May the 24th.
1694.

ELIZABETH WIDEVILLE, the ancestress of the present Royal family, and the first British female subsequent to the Norman Conquest who shared the throne of her sovereign, was eldest daughter of Richard earl Rivers, and born at Grafton;—or, as Fuller quaintly observes, “Sure I am if this Grafton saw her not first a *child*, it beheld her first a Queen, when married to king Edward the fourth.” Her first husband was sir John Grey, of Groby, who fell in the prime of life at the second battle of St. Albans 17 Feb. 1460-1 (39 Hen. 6) leaving two infant sons Thomas, afterwards marquis of Dorset, and Richard. Being a zealous Lancastrian, his estates were confiscated by the victorious Edward, and his widow returned to her paternal home at Grafton. In the beginning of the year 1464 the king having no longer any enemy to dread turned his attention to a suitable alliance, and the earl of Warwick was dispatched to Paris to negotiate a marriage with Bona of Savoy, sister of the queen of France. His mission was successful; but in the meantime Edward whilst hunting in Whittlebury forest became enamoured of the lady Grey, and sacrificed state policy to love. Their first interview according to Holinshed and other chroniclers took place at Grafton house, where Edward repaired after the chase to visit the duchess of Bedford and lord Rivers; but this is scarcely consistent with probability, as they were adherents of the rival rose; and the popular tradition of the neighbourhood is, that the lovely widow sought the young monarch in the forest for the purpose of petitioning for the restoration of her husband's lands to her, and her impoverished children; and met him under the tree still known by the name of the QUEEN'S OAK, which stands in the direct line of communication from Grafton to the forest, and now rears its hollow trunk and branching arms in a hedge row between Pury and Grafton parks. Ignorant of the king's person, she inquired of the young stranger if he could direct her to him, when he told her he himself was the object of her search. She threw herself at his feet, and implored his compassion. He raised her from the ground with assurances of favour, and captivated with her person and manners accompanied her home, and in his turn became a suitor for favours she refused to grant at the price of honor. Finding her virtue inflexible, he yielded to the force of passion, and came from Stony Stratford to Grafton early in the morning of the first of May (1464) and was privately married there by a priest, no one being present, except the boy who served at mass, the duchess of Bedford, and two of her gentlemen. In a few hours he returned to Stratford, and retired to his chamber, as if he had been hunting, and fatigued with the exercise. A short time after, he invited himself to spend a few days with lord Rivers at Grafton, and was splendidly entertained there for four days; but the marriage was kept a profound secret. Edward was only twenty-two years of age when he formed this impolitic and imprudent connexion, and at first had not resolution to brave the burst of dissatisfaction to which he foresaw it would give rise amongst all classes of his subjects; but weary of constraint, he publicly avowed his marriage on Michaelmas day following, when Elizabeth being led by the duke of Clarence in solemn pomp to the chapel of the abbey of Reading in Berkshire, was declared queen, and received the compliments of the nobility^t. In December the king held a great council at Westminster, and with the assent of the lords, assigned to the queen lands and lordships to the value of 4000 marks (£2666. 13s. 4d.) and directed that she should live with her family at the king's expense^t. Preparatory to the coronation of the queen, the king, holding his court in the Tower on ascension day 1465, created thirty-eight knights, amongst whom were six noblemen, and Richard and John Wideville two of the queen's brothers. On the morrow, the mayor, aldermen, and citizens of London went to meet the queen at Shooters hill and conducted her through Southwark and Graschurch [now Gracechurch street] to the king at the Tower. She was conveyed thence in a horse litter on Saturday, preceded by the new knights, through Chepe [now Cheapside] and the high streets of London to Westminster, and was crowned the next morning (Sunday 26th May 1465) by Thomas Bourchier archbishop of Canterbury^t; the duke of

* Will. Wyczer.

Clarence officiating as lord high steward, the earl of Arundel as constable, the duke of Norfolk as marshal, and the earl of Oxford as chamberlain.

Elizabeth's ascendancy over Edward continued unabated through life, but its effects were alike destructive of her own happiness, and the tranquillity of the nation. The boundless influence which the Neville family headed by the renowned earl of Warwick had hitherto exercised over the king and kingdom, had now to encounter the antagonist power of the queen's relations. Occasional hostile collisions were followed by hollow reconciliation. The counteracting circumstances from time to time warded off the brooding storm, but in 1470 Warwick openly declared for Henry and dethroned Edward, who fled into exile. In this unexpected and calamitous emergency, Elizabeth retired privately from the Tower on the night of the first of October, with her daughters, and took refuge in the sanctuary at Westminster, in which melancholy abode she was delivered on the fourth of November of the unfortunate Edward the fifth. The triumph of Warwick's apostacy was but short lived. Edward returned to England in the following spring; the mighty earl was slain at the battle of Barnet; and Edward regained his crown, and wore it for the remainder of his life without molestation from the house of Lancaster. The court, however, was still agitated by the intestine rivalry of the Wideville or queen's party, and the ancient nobility. The king by his prudence and authority had prevented an open rupture, and on his death-bed summoned the principal leaders of the two parties, and effected an apparent oblivion of their mutual animosity; but it lasted no longer than his life. The incidents immediately consequent on the king's decease,—the arrest of the queen's brother, lord Rivers, and the seizure of her son the young king Edward by the duke of Gloucester are recorded in a former page*. The queen justly alarmed by these proceedings which were announced to her the same evening (May 1) hurried from Westminster palace at midnight, with her younger son the duke of York, her five daughters and the marquis of Dorset, and a second time took refuge within the sanctuary of the abbey. There Rotherham archbishop of York before day-break followed her, "about whom he found much heaviness, rumble, haste, and business, carriage and conveyance of her stuff, chests, coffers, packs, and fardels all trussed on men's backs, no man unoccupied, some lading, some going, some discharging, some coming for more and some breaking down walls to bring goods in the next (nearest) way. The queen herself sat alone alone on the rushes all desolate and dismayed." The prelate endeavoured to comfort her, and left the great seal with her in pledge of his sincerity, but speedily recollecting his imprudence in leaving the seal, secretly applied for its restoration.

The duke of Gloucester entered London with his captive nephew on the 4th of May. Successive councils were held; the duke was declared protector, or regent, and the 22d of June was appointed for the coronation. It was indispensable to the secret and diabolical views of the protector that he should have the young duke of York, as well as the king, within his grasp; he represented therefore to the council the indignity and contempt cast on the government by the queen's retention of him, and the necessity of the young prince's appearance at his brother's coronation. Force was resolved on, if required, but in the first instance cardinal Beaufort, archbishop of Canterbury, and some other lords were deputed (June 16) to try the effect of persuasion. The queen expressed strong forebodings, but at length overcome by entreaty, rather than convinced by argument, she took the young duke by the hand and said to the lords: "One thing I beseech you, for the trust that his father put you in ever, and for the trust that I put you in now, that as far as you think that I fear too much, ye be well aware that you fear not as far too little." And to the child she said "Farewell, mine own sweet son! God send you good keeping! let me once kiss you ere you go, for God knoweth when we shall kiss together again;" and therewith she kissed him, and blessed him, and turned her back and wept, going her way, leaving the poor innocent child weeping as fast as his mother. Her prophetic misgivings were speedily realised, Gloucester's scheme was now ripe for execution; his partisans were instructed to deny the validity of Elizabeth's marriage; the children of the duke of Clarence it was contended were disqualified for the throne by their father's attainder; and on the 25th of June—nine days only after the duke of York was taken from the sanctuary—a petition was presented to the protector through the intrigues and exertions of the duke of Buckingham, praying him to accept the crown as of right belonging to him "as well by inheritance as by lawful election" though no parliament had been assembled. After a highly exaggerated picture of the former prosperity of the kingdom, and of the mal-administration of the late king, this curious document thus proceeds to impeach the legality of his marriage, "Also we consider how the pretended marriage betwixt the above named king Edward and Elizabeth Grey was made of great presumption, without the knowing and assent of the lords of this land, and also by sorcery and witchcraft committed by the said Elizabeth and her mother Jacquetta duchess of Bedford, as the common opinion of the people and the public voice and fame is through all this land, and hereafter, if and as the case shall require, shall be proved sufficiently in time and place convenient: and here also we consider how that the said pretended marriage was made privily and secretly, without edition of banns, in a private chamber, a profane place, and not openly in the face of the church after the law of God's church, but contrary thereunto, and the laudable custom of the church of England: and how also that at the time of the contract of the said pretended marriage, and before and long after the said king Edward was and stood married and troth-plight to one dame Eleanor Butler†, daughter to the old earl of Shrewsbury, with whom the said king Edward had made a pre-contract of matrimony long time before he made the said pretended marriage with the said Elizabeth Grey in manner and form aforesaid; which premises being true, as in very truth they be true, it appeareth and followeth evidently that the said king Edward during his life, and the said Elizabeth, lived together sinfully and damnably in adultery, against the law of God and of his church; and therefore no marvel that the sovereign lord and the head of this land, being of such ungodly disposition, and provoking the ire and indignation of our lord God, such heinous mischiefs and inconveniences, as is above remembered, were used and committed in the realm amongst the subjects. Also it appeareth evidently and followeth, that all the issue and children of the said king Edward be bastards, and unable to inherit or to claim any thing by inheritance by the law

* Vide p. 165.

† Widow of Thomas lord Butler, of Sadley.

and custom of England." I show in his sermon at St. Paul's Cross, advocating Richard's cause, had previously insisted on a pre-contract with lady Elizabeth Lucy; and in fact either of the ladies might be mentioned with equal propriety, as the licentious Edward had seduced both, under a delusive reliance on his honor; but an actual marriage which had continued undisputed for nineteen years, and the issue recognised as the heirs of their royal father could never legally or equitably be invalidated by supposititious and unsupported pre-contracts. This fiction introduced to give a plausible colour to the usurpation of Richard was adopted by the parliament convened at the commencement of the succeeding year (1484) and an act was passed to make void all estates made for the benefit of "lady Elizabeth Grey," as she was then designated*. Elizabeth had not yet ventured out of the sanctuary; at length reduced to poverty, overwhelmed with misery, and despairing of relief, she yielded to the persuasions of Richard, but not before he bound himself by a solemn oath in the house of peers (March 1) that she and her daughters should be treated by him as his kinswomen and should be in no danger of their lives; and that he would allow her 700 marks (£466. 13s. 4d.) yearly, each of her daughters 200 marks (£133. 6s. 8d.) for a marriage portion, and be married to none but gentlemen. On these terms, and for this wretched price, she trusted herself and her surviving children to the murderer of her brother and three of her sons. Elizabeth and her daughters were honorably received at court, and the most flattering attentions paid to the princess Elizabeth. Aware that it was a cherished project of his enemies to unite the houses of York and Lancaster by the marriage of this princess to Henry earl of Richmond (afterwards Henry VII.) Richard hoped to counterwork the plot by uniting her to his own son Edward. After the sudden death of that prince, and the opportune demise of his own wife, (Apr. 1485,) it has been asserted that he formed the design of marrying the princess himself; and, incredible as it may seem, it has been insinuated that the daughter listened favorably to the proposals of the accomplished villain, and that the mother in contemplation of the unnatural alliance urged her son the marquis of Dorset, then in Paris, to withdraw from the earl of Richmond and return to England.

The memorable battle of Bosworth in August 1485 placed the crown on the head of Henry VII. and pursuant to a previous arrangement, and the general wish of the nation, the union of the red and white roses was accomplished in his marriage with the princess Elizabeth. In the first parliament of this reign (Nov. 1485) an act passed restoring Elizabeth, widow of king Edward IV. to the same estate and dignity as she would have had if no act of parliament had been made against her in the time of Richard III. "late in dede but not of right king of Englane." During Henry's progress through the kingdom in 1487 his queen kept her court at Winchester with her mother and sisters; and on the baptism of prince Arthur there in September, her mother was sponsor, and her sister Cecily attended by Anne, another of her sisters, carried the child—a convincing proof that down to this period the queen dowager was on good terms with the king; but towards the close of this year a formidable insurrection broke out in support of Lambert Simnel a young impostor trained to personate Edward earl of Warwick, son of the late duke of Clarence; and Henry suspecting the conspiracy to have originated at her suggestion, or with her connivance, seized her lands and possessions, and committed her to close confinement in Bermondsey priory near London, where, according to Grafton, Holinshed, and other writers, she lingered out the remainder of her days in solitude and wretchedness. Much mystery and contradiction attend this portion of Elizabeth's history. No rational motive can be assigned for her support of Simnel's pretensions, as his success would have dethroned her daughter; and it is equally difficult to account for Henry's distrust of her in the absence of any published grounds of suspicion. Instead of her imprisonment continuing through life, it was most probably only a precautionary measure and ceased with the suppression of the revolt; for in the following November, Henry entered into an agreement with James, king of Scotland, that he should marry Elizabeth the queen dowager, and that his two sons should marry two of her daughters, but the nuptials were delayed by an insurrection of the Scotch lords, and ultimately frustrated by the death of king James. Her restoration to favor is further confirmed by the fact, that when the French ambassadors were introduced to the queen at Westminster in Nov. 1489 "there was with her *hir moder* queene Elizabeth, and my lady the king's moder." And yet, if not restricted to Bermondsey by the king, she remained there in voluntary exile, forsaking, and forsaken by the world: the time when she quitted it is unknown, but her will is dated in April 1492.

of the world: the time when she quitted it is unknown, but her will is dated in April 1492.

It exhibits a melancholy picture of fallen greatness, and alludes to her state of destitution with pathetic simplicity. "In Dei nomine Amen. The xth daye of April, the yere of our Lord God MCCCC.LXXXII. I Elizabeth beinge the grace of God queene of England late wif to the most victorious prince of blessed memorie Edward the Fourth, beinge of hole mynde, seyinge the worlde so transitorie, and no creature certayne whane they shall departe from hence, havinge Almyghty Godd fresh in mynde, in whom is all mercy and grace, bequeith my sowle unto his handes; beseeching him of the same mercy to accept it graciously, and oure blesed Lady queene of comfort and all the holy company of hevyen, to be good meynes for me. It'm, I bequeith my body to be buried with the bodie of my lord John at Windessore, according to the will of my saide lorde and myne, without pompes entreine or costlie expensis domne there aboute. It'm, where[as] I have no worldly goodes to do the queenes grace my dearest daughter a pleaser with, nether to reward any of my children according to my hart and mynde as is to me possible, I geve her grace my blessing, and all her forsaid my children. It'm, I will that suche smale stuffe and goodes that I have, be disposed truly to the contentatōn of my dettes and for the helth of my sowle as farre as they will extende. It'm, yf any of my bloodde of any of my saide stuffe or goodes to me pertyeing, I will that they have the preferment before any other. And while any of my present testament I make and ordreyn myn executors, that is to say, John Ingilly priour of the Charter house of Shene, William Sutton and Thomas Brente, doctors. And I beseech my said dearest daughter the queenes grace and my sone Thomas marquis Dorsett to putte there [their] good wills and help for the performans of this my testamente. In witness whereof, to this my present testament I have sett my scale; these witnesses, John abbot of the monastery of Sainte Saviour of Bermondesley, and Benedictus Cun, doctor of fysick. Even the day and yere

* Rot. Parl. vol. 6, p. 241.

* Act of Parl. 1 Ric. 3, c. 15.

abovesaid y." That external splendour and internal happiness are far from being synonymous terms, is strikingly exemplified in the life of this ill fated queen. What were the pomps and pleasures of royalty, in comparison of the heart-rending catalogue of misery which resulted from her unexpected and dazzling elevation—her father earl Rivers, two of her brothers, sir John Wideville and Anthony earl Rivers, and three of her sons, lord Leonard Grey, king Edward V. and the duke of York, successively murdered—and herself twice compelled with her fatherless and unprotected children to take refuge in a sanctuary—attainted and stripped of her possessions by a brother in law—and persecuted and imprisoned by a son in law.

In the painted window of the martyrdom or north cross chapel in Canterbury cathedral is still preserved her portrait associated with her husband, king Edward IV., their two sons, and five daughters; but her best and most imperishable memorial is Queen's college, Cambridge, which, being left unfinished by Margaret of Anjou, queen of Henry VI., was completed, and many privileges obtained for it, by Elizabeth, the year after her royal marriage.

† Nichols's Royal & Noble Wills.



HARTWELL

is written Hertewelle in domesday, and in some early records from its bleak and open situation is called Wold-Hartwell. The parish was inclosed by act of parliament 6 Geo. 4 (1826) and contains inclusive of Hartwell Park about 1415 acres, of which about 480 acres belong to George-Henry duke of Grafton, K. G. lord of the manor; about 420 acres to William Castleman, of Winborne in Dorsetshire, esq.; about 320 acres to Frederick William Thomas Vernon Wentworth, of Stoke park, esq.; and about 170 acres to the feoffees of the Stony Stratford charity. It is bounded on the north by Quinton and Piddington in Wymerley hundred, and north-east by extra-parochial lands late Salecy forest; south-east and south by Hanslope in Buckinghamshire, south-west by Grafton Regis; and west by Ashton.

The soil is principally clay. Nearly two-thirds of the lordship is arable. There is a watermill called Bosenho mill in this parish, on the river Tove, bordering on Grafton field.

Nathaniel Broughton was married when 102 years old, and was buried here 26 Dec. 1690, aged 105 years*.

MANORIAL HISTORY. BAIEUX FEE. HONOR of DOVER. "Hertewelle" was the Saxon freehold of *Edmar*†. It was then rated at £4 yearly; but was reduced to 70s. at the domesday survey, when it was held by *William* (Peverel) under the bishop of Baieux. It contained four hides and a half, and the fifth part of half a hide. The arable land was ten carucates; of which two were in demesne with five servants; eleven villeins and nine bordars with a priest had four carucates; and the remaining four carucates were waste or unaccounted for. There were twelve acres of meadow, and a mill worth 17s. 4d. yearly, and a wood eight furlongs long, and three wide^b. *Odo*, bishop of Baieux in Normandy, besides Hartwell, had the whole or parts of Hulcot in Easton Neston, Houghton (Parva), Brayfield, Gretworth, Braunston, Walton in King's Sutton, Puxley, Rode, Everdon, Charlton, and Heyford^c. He was uterine brother of *William* the conqueror, who bestowed on him the earldom of Kent, and upwards of four hundred manors in different counties. He was reputed "the wisest man in England," and to him was delegated the administration of justice. His extortion and his ambition were unbounded, and having amassed immense wealth, and being deluded by the idle prediction of an astrologer that the present pope should be succeeded by an *Odo*, he formed the project of purchasing the papacy, and was on the point of embarking for Rome with his treasure and *Hugh* earl of Chester at the head of a splendid retinue, when he was intercepted by the king, who, accusing him of breach of trust and oppression ordered him to be apprehended, but the guards not daring to touch a prelate, he arrested him with his own hands, and on *Odo* insisting that as an ecclesiastic he was amenable only to the pope, he replied, that he seized not the bishop of Baieux but the earl of Kent, and ordered him to be imprisoned in the castle of Rouen, where he remained till the monarch on his death-bed reluctantly consented to his release. He was restored to his earldom and estates by *William* II. but not being re-instated in his office of chief justiciary, his proud and restless spirit urged him to head a conspiracy for transferring the throne to *Robert* duke of Normandy the conqueror's eldest son, but failing in the attempt, he abjured England, forfeited his title and possessions, and became prime counsellor to the duke in Normandy.

The charge of Dover castle, "the lock and key of the kingdom," was consigned to him by the conqueror after the battle of Hastings, and most if not all his lands were subjected to castle guard to Dover. *Walchelin* Maminot in 4 Steph. (1138) held Dover castle for the empress *Maud*‡; and amongst the feudatories of his son *Walchelin* Maminot in 14 Hen. 2 (1167) *Nicholas*, *Hugh Lupus*, or *Le Lou*, *Adam Rufus*, and *Ralph* the son of *William* held half a fee each of his barony§—doubtless the same individuals as *Nicholas*, *Hugh*, *Adam*, and *Ralph*, who in the hydariam of the same reign were found to hold four hides and a half, and a small virgate, viz. the fifth part of half a hide, in Hertwell of the fee of *Walchelin* Maminot¶. *Geoffrey* de Say married the sister and coheir of this *Walchelin*‡, of whose grandson *William* de Say, *John de Hertwell*, *William Lupus*, *Nicholas* the son of *Philip*, and *Walter Mauntell* were returned in the Testa de Nevill about 27 Hen. 3 (1242) to hold two fees in Hertwell of the honor of Dover‡. In 24 Edw. 1 (1295) the vill of Hertwell was certified to be held of his son *William* de Say, by payment of 100s. yearly to the ward of Dover castle‡; and in the book called the *Quire of Dover* which was given into the exchequer in the twenty-fifth year of *Edward* 1. "John de Hertwell was certified to hold of *William* de Say two fees in Hertwell of the Barony of Maminot, by the service of two and thirty weeks' attendance upon the guard of Dover-castle: and these fees the said *William* de Say was said to hold of the crown by Barony." On collecting the aid for knighting the king's eldest son in 20 Edw. 3 (1346) *John de Hertwell* and *Walter Mauntell* accounted for one fee in Hertwell of the honor of Dover, bound to render 20s. yearly to the ward of the castle for thirty-two weeks' service‡. In 19 Ric. 2 (1395) sir *William* Heron and Elizabeth his wife the sister and heiress of *John* Say, lord Say, and widow of sir *John* de Falwese‡; levied a fine of two knight's fees in Hertwell‡; and "in the second year of *Henry* IV. *Maud* the widow of *Thomas Bosenho*, and daughter and one of the coheirs of *Sir Thomas de Alden*, knight, released to *Sir William* Heron, knight, and his heirs all right in two knight's fees in Hertwell." Sir *William* was, in right of his wife

* Par. Reg.

† Domesd. fo. 220.

‡ Dugd. Bar. 1, p. 619.

§ Lib. Nig. 1, p. 58.

¶ Cotton MSS. Vesp. E. xxi. fo. 96.

‡ Dugd. Bar. 1, p. 531.

§ Test. Nev. fo. 121.

¶ Cardigan MSS. "Nom. Vill." p. 89.

‡ Br. 1, p. 303. * MS. Hatton.

* Inham MSS. No. 36. "Comp. Walt. Paries." p. 200.

† Hatton MSS. "Fin. 19 Ric. 2."

‡ Br. 1, p. 303. Rot. Claus. 2 Hen. 4, p. 2.

Vide ALBERTON, p. 119.

† Vide BUGBROOK, vol. 1, p. 121.

‡ Vide FAWLEY, vol. 1, p. 379.

summoned to parliament, and died in 6 Hen. 4 (1404) seized of these two fees; but Elizabeth lady Say, who predeceased him in 1399, leaving no issue by either of her husbands, the inheritance of her barony fell in abeyance between the representatives of her two aunts Idocea wife of sir John de Clinton and Joan wife of sir William Fiennes.

MANOR. *William Peverel*, the domesday sub-tenant, or his immediate successor, enfeoffed a family here who assumed the local surname; and at a period not later and probably earlier than Henry II. *Sinon de Hartwell* gave the advowson of the chapel of Hartwell and his portion of the church of Roade to St. James's abbey^a, founded by Peverel*. Intermittent notices of the Hartwells have occurred in tracing the descent of the parsonage, but no connected account of them or their possessions can be given; and in the fifteenth century they acquired the manor of PRESTON DEANRY, where their pedigree will be more appropriately placed.

Richard Wydeville earl Rivers made a settlement of his estates in 5 Hen. 7 (1489) including the manor of Hartwell^b; and its subsequent descent to *George-Henry* 4th duke of Grafton the present proprietor (1835) has been anticipated under GRAFTON REGIS†.

HARTWELL PARK containing 320 acres, with the lodges and houses "disparked for ever as well from vert and hunting as from all other things to a park incident or belonging" was granted for £2100 in 5 Car. 1 (1629-30) to *Endymion Porter*, esq. one of the grooms of the bedchamber^c; who in May 9 Car. 1 (1638) re-conveyed it to the King, by whom it was immediately granted out again to

Sir Robert Berkeley one of the justices of the king's bench^d, who in Nov. following had licence to alienate it to *Sir Francis Crane*, chancellor of the garter^e. In Mar. 20 Car. 1 (1644-5) *William Crane*, esq. and *Frances* his wife (daughter and heiress of Joan Bond, sister and coheir of sir Richard Crane, bart. deceased, the brother and heir of sir Francis Crane deceased) settled the reversion of Hartwell park expectant on the decease of dame Jane Crane widow of sir Richard, in trust for

Francis Arundel, esq. in consideration of his relinquishing an annuity of £400 charged by sir Richard on the Crane estates in Norfolk, and for a jointure for Anne his wife, sister of the said William^f. From the Arundels it has descended by the same title with **STOKE PARK** to *Frederick William Thomas Vernon Wentworth*, esq. the present proprietor.

ST. JOHN'S HOSPITAL LANDS. *William de Brampton* by inquisition *ad quod damnum* in 27 Edw. 1 (1398-9) had licence to grant lands and rents in Hartwell Wyke, Quinton, Courtenhall, and Pidington worth 100s. yearly to the master and brothers of St. John's hospital in Northampton^g. The rev. William Atkinson master of the hospital of St. John's and the co-brothers in 6 Hen. 8 (1515) demised all "their farm in Hartwell" to

Richard Wake, gent. for sixty-one years at an annual rent of £4; and *Richard Byrdsall* master and the co-brothers in 17 Hen. 8 (1536) conveyed to him and his heirs all their lands and tenements at "Hartwell in the parish of Roade" at the same reserved rent^h. In 37 Hen. 8 (1546) he settled "the mansion house of Hartwell called St. John's house" and all his lands there on his [second] wife Margaret in lieu of jointure, remainder to his [younger] son *Richard Wake*ⁱ, gent. who died seized of the St. John's hospital and Delapré abbey lands, and the impropriate tithes of Hartwell in 23 Eliz. (1580-1) leaving *Robert Wake*, gent. his son and heir, aged twenty-one years^j; on whose decease in 18 Jac. (1620-1)

Richard Wake, gent. succeeded as brother and heir^k; but he also having no issue entailed his Hartwell estates in 3 Car. (1628) on *sir John Wake*^l, bart. representative of the elder line of the family[†]. *Sir William Wake*, bart. and *Charles Wake*, esq. in 1670 conveyed this property to *sir Samuel Jones of Courtenhall*, whose trustees in 1686 sold it to *Dr. James Gardiner*, of whom it was purchased the following year by *Thomas Jennings*, esq. In 1717 it was sold under a decree of chancery by *Thomas Jennings*, esq. and Christian his wife and the mortgagees to *George earl of Halifax*^m]. The earl died in 1739, and an act of parliament passed the following year for vesting the inheritance of part of his estates in trustees for the payment of his debts, daughters' portions, and legaciesⁿ. This estate was included under the description of "the manor or reputed manor" of Hartwell, but the delegated power was not executed, and it descended to *Elizabeth* daughter and heiress of *George* the last earl of Halifax and wife of *John viscount Hinchinbrook* (afterwards 5th earl of Sandwich) who (the viscountess being then dead) sold it in 1789 to colonel *Philip Skene*. He resided here for a short time, and then removed to Addersey Lodge near Stoke Goldington in Buckinghamshire, where he died on the 9th of Aug. 1810. He was formerly of Skenesborough in North America, lieutenant governor of Crown Point and Ticonderago, and surveyor of his majesty's woods and forests bordering on lake Champlain in New York. His loyalty could only be equalled by his singular bravery, having served in the British army from 1739 to 1782, during which period he was engaged in some of the severest conflicts recorded in the British annals, and often wounded. After the close of the American war, in which from his well known loyalty he lost an ample fortune, he lived in secluded retirement to the time of his death. His grandfather John Skene of Halyards in Fifeshire N.B. married Elizabeth daughter of sir Thomas Wallace of Cragie in Ayrshire, the nearest collateral descendant of the celebrated but unfortunate William Wallace. The colonel was buried in Hartwell chapel. His grandson *George Robert Skene*, esq. inherits the unalienated portion of his estates, but Hartwell was sold in 1812 to *William Castleman* of Winborne in Dorsetshire, esq. the present proprietor (1885).

^a Esc. 6 Hen. 4, n. 21.

^b Pat. 1 Nov. 9 Car. 1.

^c Esc. 19 Jac. p. 1, n. 30.

^d Vide vol. 1, p. 146.

^e Br. MSS. E. p. 390.

^f Crane evidences.

^g Act of parl. 13 Geo. 2, c. 10.

^h Vide p. 167.

ⁱ Brit. Mus. xxx. 34.

^j Esc. 27 Edw. 1, n. 110.

^k Vide COURTENHALL.

^l Pat. 12 Mar. 5 Car. 1.

^m Abstract of title.

ⁿ Vide HORTON.

[†] Pat. . . May 9 Car. 1.

[‡] Esc. 23 Eliz. p. 2, n. 104.

DELAPE ABBEY had a cottage and twelve acres of land in Hartwell which were granted in 18 Eliz. (1575-6) to John and William Marsh^a; and soon after added to the Wake property^d.

ST. JAMES'S ABBEY LANDS. Matilda widow of Robert the son of Roger de Hartwell gave to the abbot and convent of St. James sixteen acres and a half of land in Bosenho field, and two acres of meadow in Hertwellhol, on condition that her name and her husband's were entered in the martyrology of the convent, and their anniversary celebrated^e. Matilda de Rode daughter of Adam de Bosenho gave them four acres in Hartwell^e. Roger de Geneworth gave them with his body four acres of assarts near Wickam [Wyke] with three houses; viz. those four acres which four knights granted to him, Ralph de Hertwell, William Lupus, Adam de Bosenho, and Nicholas de Hertwell^f. Robert son of Hamon de Wyke gave them 25s. rent in the vill of Wike, in consideration of their releasing the tithes of a certain windmill which he had erected on his land of Wike within the limits of their parish of Rode^g. And William Lupus son of William Lupus of Rode gave them seven acres in Hartwell which he had of the gift of his grandmother Matilda de Rode^h.

THE VILLAGE stands on elevated ground about seven miles south of Northampton. In the time of Bridges it consisted of 'about eighty familiesⁱ.' By the census of 1801, it contained 73 houses and 357 inhabitants; by that of 1811, 78 houses and 414 inhabitants; by that of 1821, 84 houses and 432 inhabitants; and by that of 1831, 95 houses and 531 inhabitants including 7 persons in Salecy forest. The annual quota of land tax for this parish is £115. 5s. 2d. at 4s. in the £. The estimated value of real property as assessed to the property tax of 10 per cent. for the year ending April 1815 amounted to £1578. The poor rates for the year ending Easter 1832 raised £382. 0s. 10d. at 5s. 6d. in the £. The wake follows the feast of St. John the baptist.

ADVOWSON. Simon de Hertwell, for the souls of his father Geoffrey and of his brothers William and Henry, gave to the abbey of St. James near Northampton, that part of the church of Rode which belonged to his fee with a virgate of land, and the chapel of Hertwell with a virgate of land, and also Kinewinescroft and Brlhtgenescroft and the mill which the canons had made on his fee near Kinewinescroft^j; and Walchelm Mamnot, the lord of the fee, confirmed the donation. Roger de Hertwell gave the monks all the tithes of the land which king John gave him^k; and Robert de Salecto all the tithes of his land called Bastardesleye in Hartwell^l. In Jan. 18 Eliz. (1575-6) two butts of land containing a rood in Swallow Corner close in Hartwell, appointed for maintaining a lamp in the church, and all those tithes and lands in Hartwell within the parish of Rode parcel of the late monastery of St. James, Northampton, or of the chapel of Hartwell, were granted to John and William Marshe^m, who on the 13th of the following month conveyed them to Francis Barker and Edward Barker, and they the same day to Richard Wake, gent.ⁿ from whom they have passed with the St. John's hospital estate to William Castleman, esq.

IMPROPRIATE RECTORY. The "certificate from Northamptonshire" published in 1641 states, that the parsonage of Hartwell was held by sir John Wake, and was worth £100 yearly. The impropriate tithes extended over seven hundred and seventy-one acres, exclusive of fifteen acres reputed to be in Ashton, for which an allotment of land was made to the impropriator of Hartwell on the inclosure of that lordship. The commissioners for inclosing Hartwell have awarded certain corn rents to the impropriator in lieu of the impropriate tithes.

THE PERPETUAL CURACY is in the deanry of Preston. Hartwell is an affiliation of the mother church of Roade, and still contributes a moiety to the church rate. There was a priest resident here at the domesday survey; it may therefore be reasonably inferred that the parish of Roade to which it was subsequently subordinate could not then have been formed. In the early ecclesiastical taxations Hartwell was silently included in Roade, but in the survey of 1535 (26 Hen. 8) Hartwell chapel is separately rated in rents and profits at £7 yearly^o. The parliamentary commissioners in 1655 certified it to be a parsonage impropriate, and that Mr. Gittings the incumbent received a salary of £10 per ann.^p It is a discharged living, returned under the act 5 Anne (1707) to be of the clear yearly value of £20; and in the return of livings under £150 per ann. in 1809, the bishop of Peterborough certified it to be of the yearly value of £38, arising from pension, bequest, augmentation, and surplice fees. It was augmented by queen Anne's bounty in 1790 with £200 by lot, and in 1799 with £200 to meet a benefaction of £100 from the rev. William Butler, and £100 from Mrs. Pincomb's charity, with which £600 about 36 acres of land have been purchased in Roade; and it has been further augmented with £200 by lot and £200 by a parliamentary grant, with which £400 about 16 acres of land at Eakley Lane in Stoke Goldington parish, Buckinghamshire, have been purchased. The perpetual curate has also 51a. 1r. 11p. of land in Roade allotted by the commissioners of inclosure in lieu of glebe and tithes; a yearly stipend of £16 from the impropriator; and £4 per ann. from the rev. Mr. Whalley's charity.

PERPETUAL CURATES. Hartwell being a parochial chapelry to Roade, and appropriated with it to the abbot and convent of St. James, was supplied by the same incumbent; but a few years prior to the dissolution of the monasteries they appointed a separate minister for Hartwell, and it has ever since been considered a distinct benefice, or donative, the lay impropriator paying a small stipend and exercises the right of patronage. In the ecclesiastical survey of 1535

William Lambe is entered as chaplain of Hartwell chapel. His successor is not known; but in 1641 the author of "the certificate from Northamptonshire" observes that the "poore Minister

^a Pat. 30 Jan. 18 Eliz. p. 2.

^d Esc. 23 Eliz. p. 2, n. 104.

^e Br. MSS. E. p. 392.

^f Ibid. p. 395.

^g Ibid. p. 396.

^h Ibid. p. 397.

ⁱ Br. 1, p. 302.

^j Br. MSS. E. p. 390.

^k Ibid. fo. 391.

^l Ibid. fo. 396.

^m Pat. 30 Jan. 18 Eliz. p. 2.

ⁿ Abstract of title.

^o Augm. Off.

^p Lambeth MSS. vol. 20.

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Master Jo, Gittins that doth serve the Cure is so very poore and miserable, that no marvell there is no preaching; he hath bene there some thirty or forty yeares;" and he was still there in 1655⁴.

George Vaux "began to preach at Hartwell Apr. 1, 1683⁴," and continued to sign himself "minister" till his death in 1713. He was also vicar of Courtenhall, and was succeeded here by

Robert Vaux, vicar of Courtenhall, who died in 1754, when another

Robert Vaux obtained both benefices. On his decease in 1791, colonel Skene the lay impropriator consented to place Hartwell under episcopal jurisdiction and presented

William Butlin, of Lincoln coll. Oxf. A.M. who was instituted 20 Apr. 1791. He is also perpetual curate or vicar of Roade.

THE REGISTER commences in 1684. On the first page is entered "Memorand. of as many as could be called to mind: the register being neglected for many years;" and a few baptisms follow from 1664 to 1683. Bridges states that the 'inhabitants of Hartwell are obliged to bury at Rode'; but burials are regularly entered from the commencement of the register.



THE CHURCH OR CHAPEL, dedicated to St. John the baptist, stands adjoining the Stratford charity farm yard, about a mile south of the village, and within a furlong to the north of the "Shire ditch" which divides the counties of Northampton and Buckingham, and nearly equi-distant about seven miles from the market towns of Olney, Newport Pagnell, Stratford, Northampton, and Towcester.

It is a small Norman edifice with later alterations and mutilations, and consists now only of a nave and chancel tiled. In the time of Bridges there was 'a low north ile tiled also, and extending to the end of the chancel; though by the pillars on this north side, and an arch on the south, there is reason to conjecture that formerly there were here two iles. The upper end of this north ile is divided from the rest by a partition wall, and serves as a kind of vestry.' This aisle has been since taken down, and the arches which divided it from the nave built into an outer wall of brick. At the west end was a small gable bell turret with two arches, one of which disappeared with the aisle, and in the remaining one hangs a small bell exposed. On the south front is the arch of a Norman door with the dog-tooth ornament. To the east of it, is some herring-bone work, and a plain Norman arch probably the entrance to the chancel. The nave is 48ft. 10in. and the chancel 17ft. 10in. long by 13ft. wide. The interior is of one pace without any division between the nave and chancel. It is paved partly with brick and partly with stone. In the north wall is the interesting range of four Norman arches which originally separated the nave and the aisle. They are supported on circular pillars, with rather shallow capitals varying in design, but with circular astragals and abacuses of plain flat mouldings. The connecting archivolt mouldings have a beautiful effect, and consist of a series of large

bold nailheads with a peculiar enrichment, each being divided from the other by a row of smaller ones, and the whole bordered on the outside by another row. A specimen of one of the capitals with the springing of the archivolt moulding from the lotus flower is represented below. A plain circular Norman font about four feet in height is attached to the central pillar. The chapel does not contain a single monumental inscription.

THE WESLEYAN METHODISTS have a chapel in the village 39 ft. 8 in. long, and 14 ft. 5 in. wide, built in 1814. It is pewed, and has a gallery across the west end.

BENEFACTIONS. (Vide p. 117). POORS OF PARISH LAND, containing about 5 acres of land in the parish of Piddington is let by the minister, churchwardens and overseers for £12 per ann. The rent is added to and applied with the poor's rates, and there is no evidence to shew that it has ever been applied in any other manner.

THE CHAPEL LAND is an allotment of about half an acre of land in Ashton. It is let for 35s. *per ann.* which is applied with the church rates.



PASSENHAM

in the Saxon chronicle written *Porpanham*, and in domesday *assonha* (by a clerical error in the initial letter) and *Passeham*, presents an obvious etymology in the *passes* or fords over the river Ouse, in connection with the terminal *ham*, which may be rendered, habitation, or meadow, with equal applicability.

Passenham, with its members, Denshanger with Little London and Holywell, and Puxley with the forest lodges, contains about 3400 acres; of which about 1390 acres are in Whittlebury forest; about 1050 acres belong to Henry lord viscount Maynard, lord of the manor; about 300 acres to John Clarke of Denshanger, gent.; about 190 acres to the rector, in right of his church; about 135 acres to the rev. John Christopher Whalley of Ecton; and about 125 acres to George Henry duke of Grafton, K.G. Passenham is all old inclosure, supposed to have been inclosed in the time of sir Robert Banastre. Denshanger was inclosed by act of parliament in 12 Geo. 3 (1772). The parish is bounded on the north by Whittlebury forest, Potterspury and Old Stratford; east and south by the river Ouse which divides it from Stony Stratford, Calverton, Beachampton, and Thornton in Buckinghamshire; and west by Wickén. Passenham is rich meadow land, with a small proportion of arable. There is a mill on the Ouse. Morton after

noticing some pikes of extraordinary size, adds "which yet are all far surpass'd by a Pike catch'd in the Ouse nigh *Passenham*, Anno 1683. 'Twas carry'd to the Honourable *William Herbert Esq.* of *Perry Park*, who ordered it to be put into his Stews, where tho' well supply'd with Food, yet it shrunk away and wasted, seeming sullen and displeas'd. Notwithstanding, when drawn out of the Stews, it was no less than 59 inches from the Tip of the Nose to end of the Tail in length and 14 in width; a surprizing Magnitude, and such as I shou'd not have given Credit to, had I not been assur'd of the Truth of the thing, both by a Picture of the Pike which was made when the Fish was just taken and is still preserv'd in *Perry-Park House*, and by the Testimony of many of the most credible Persons in that Neighbourhood." The Buckingham canal passes through this lordship.

MANORIAL HISTORY. *TERRA REGIS OF ANCIENT DEMESNE* *. At the domesday survey the King himself held "Bassonha." Though it contained only one hide, the arable land was twelve carucates; of which, one was in demesne with a servant; eight villeins and six bordars with a freeman had five others, and the remaining six, or a moiety of the whole, lay waste or unaccounted for. There was a mill worth 13s. 4d. yearly; thirty acres of meadow and a wood a mile square.

To this manor belonged "Pocheslej" containing half a hide. The arable land was one carucate. A socman had half a carucate, and rendered 5s. yearly; the other half is unaccounted for.

The whole manor rendered £8 by tale yearly in the time of king Edward the confessor, but was now raised to £10 yearly^b.

RAINALD FEE. *Rainald*, one of the king's eleemosinaries, had half a hide in "Paschea," and one carucate with four bordars, valued at 10s. yearly^c.

HONOR OF TUTBURY †. The hydarium of Hen. 2 simply states that there was one hide in *Bassenham* †. The proprietor is not named; but about this period it passed from the crown to the noble family of *Ferrars* † and became a member of the honor of *Tutbury* in *Staffordshire*. On the forfeiture of the possessions of *Robert* the last earl of *Derby* of the line of *Ferrars*, in 50 Hen. 3 (1266), the honor of *Tutbury* was granted to the king's second son *Edmund* surnamed *Crouchback*, earl of *Lancaster* †§, and is now parcel of the duchy of *Lancaster*.

MANOR. It appears, that one of the chiefs of the house of *Ferrars* subinfeudated at *Passenham* a female branch of the family; for it will be seen in a future page, that *Leticia* de *Ferrars*, sister of *Robert* earl *Ferrars*, gave considerable lands here to the hospital of *St. John* of *Jerusalem*. The succeeding mesne lords adopted their hereditary surname from the place. In the Testa de *Nevill* about 25 Hen. 3 (1240) *Henry Mauvesin* is returned to hold half a fee in *Passenham* of *William* earl *Ferrars* as of the honor of *Tutbury* †; but I presume, he only enjoyed it by courtesy, in right of his wife, the widow of one of the *Passenham*s. In 46 Hen. 3 (1261) *William* son of *William* de *Passenham* was convicted of unjustly disseising *John Baligan* of the common pasture in *Passenham* which belonged to his free tenement there. *William de Passenham* died in 6 Edw. 1 (1278) seized of the manor of *Passenham*, with free fishery in the *Ouse*, and profits of court with reliefs and heriots worth 10s. yearly. The whole was valued at £27. 2s. 3½d. yearly^b.

WILLIAM DE PASSENHAM, of *Passenham*, ob. 6 Edw. 1 (1279) Esc. 6 Edw. 1, n. 39,.....

1. WILLIAM DE PASSENHAM, s. & h. 2. HENRY DE PASSENHAM, ALICIA, Sir JOHN DE WIDEVILLE, of *Grafton*, MARGARET, Robert de KER-
Esc. 6 Edw. 1, ob. s. p. brother & heir, ob. s. p. sist. & coh. living 23 Edw. 1 (1297). sist. & coh. SERROOK.

JOHN DE WIDEVILLE, of *Grafton*, claimed *Passenham* 16 Edw. 2 (1322) & 3 Edw. 3 (1329). HENRY DE KERSEBROOK claimed *Passenham* 3 Edw. 3 (1329), & released his right 6 Edw. 3 (1332).

WIDEVILLE, EARL RIVERS. Vide p. 166.

In the session of parliament 15 & 16 Edw. 2 (1322) *Laurence de Tresham* presented a petition, stating that *Mast*. *Thomas* de *Sedynton* (or *Sudington*) and the said *Laurence* had purchased the manor of *Passenham* in *Northamptonshire*, and were jointly enfeoffed for life, remainder to the heirs of *Laurence*, and continued peaceably seised from the feast of *St. Andrew* to the feast of "Nouvel" ensuing, when sir *Walter de Langton*, then treasurer of *England*, from hatred towards the said *Thomas*, and desire of the said manor, took it into the king's hands and kept it during *Thomas*'s life; after whose decease *Thomas* earl of *Lancaster*, now dead, came and claimed the manor to be held of the honor of *Tutbury*, not noticing the said *Laurence* to whom the right belonged, and so had seisin; whereupon *Laurence* went to the earl tendering to him the service of the manor, and offering to become his tenant according to his purchase and right, but the earl refusing him, he brought an assise of *novel disseisin* against the earl, *Eliz. Poches* escheator, and the other disseisors in the county of *Northampton*: the manor is now in the hands of the king by the death of the earl of *Lancaster*, and *Laurence* prays the king and his council to grant him some remedy and favour. The process was seen and the manor freed from the seisin of the earl of *Lancaster* †. Another and very different version of the circumstances in which this manor was placed is given in an inquisition *ad q. d.* a few months after, at the suit of *John de Wyderyll* of *Grafton* as grandson and heir of *William* de *Passenham*. The jurors presented that *William de Passenham* son and heir of *William*, being an idiot, king *Edward* 1st committed the custody of his person and lands to *Hugh Fitz Oates* steward of the royal household, who demised the custody to a certain *Thomas* de *Sudington* in whose charge the said *William* died, and

* *Morton*, p. 421. † *Domesd.* fo. 220. † *Ibid.* fo. 222b. † *Cotton MSS.* Vesp. E. xxi. fo. 96. † *Pat.* 50 Hen. 3, m. 9, n. 19.
† *Test. Nev.* fo. 107. † *Placit.* 46 Hen. 3. † *Esc.* 6 Edw. 1, n. 39. † *Rot. Parl.* 1, p. 393.

* *Vide KIRKSTON*, vol. 1, p. 39. † *Vide POTTERSFORD.* † *Vide HIGHAM FERRERS.* † *Vide DORFORD*, vol. 1, p. 330.

Henry de Passenham his brother and heir entered on the manor and kept possession till he was ejected by the said Thomas, against whom he prosecuted an assise of *novel disseisin* which was undermined at Thomas's death. On his decease Thomas late earl of Lancaster held the manor as parcel of the honor of Tutbury, and retained it till it was forfeited with his other lands by his rebellion; but the jurors further presented that the earl had no right in the manor except as above stated¹. Neither Wydevyll nor Tresham alludes to his opponent's claim. Both agree in the earl of Lancaster, the paramount lord, taking possession on the decease of Sudington; and the jury in the former case expressly affirm that he enjoyed it till his forfeiture; yet there was a temporary alienation overlooked by both parties, for in 9 Edw. 2 (1315)

*Robert de Holand** was certified to be lord of Passenham and Denshanger¹; and in 12 Edw. 2 (1318) the king confirmed to him, and Matilda his wife, in tail general, the manor of Tingetwysell [Entwistle in Lancashire] the manor and advowson of Mottram in Cheshire and the land of Longdendale, which had been granted to them in exchange for the manor of Passenham by

Thomas earl of Lancaster²; on whose execution and attainder in 15 Edw. 2 (1321-2) this manor shared the fate of his other estates. John de Shoreditch, advocate of the court of arches, in part of reward for his services beyond the seas for ten years and upwards, obtained a grant of the manor of Passenham, with a proviso that if the king resumed it, he should have in lieu lands and rents elsewhere to the value of £40 yearly. He presented a petition to parliament in 4 Edw. 3 (1330) complaining that the late king had deprived him of this manor without granting him the promised equivalent, to his great detriment, and which was the more grievous as he was abroad at the time on royal service. The king with the advice of his council directed that compensation should be made to him according to the terms of the charter³. In 20 Edw. 2 (1326) probably on the resumption of the above grant, the king committed to *Henry* earl of Lancaster during pleasure (*int. al.*) the manor of Passenham erroneously described as in Buckinghamshire⁴. The attainder of Thomas earl of Lancaster was annulled by parliament in 1 Edw. 3 (1327)⁵, and on the consequent inquisition taken, this manor was included in the estates restored to his brother and heir earl Henry⁶. In 3 Edw. 3 (1329) *John de Wydevyll* and *Henry* son of *Robert de Kersebrok*, the heirs of the Passenhams, renewed their claim, and brought an action against John son of Walter le Blount of Sadington in Worcestershire, lessee for life of this manor, who called on the earl to warrant to him the manor. The earl did not appear, and judgment was taken into the king's hands of the lands of the earl to the value of the manor⁷. But on a final hearing the jury presented that John le Blount held the manor for life by grant from Henry earl of Lancaster, and that it was held of the honor of Tutbury immediately, and not of the king⁸, and in 6 Edw. 3 (1332) '*Henry de Kersebrok* released to the said *Henry* Earl of Lancaster all pretensions of right to the Manor of *Passenham* with its members of *Denshanger*, *Pokesley*, and *Stone-Stratford*!'. The earl died seised in 19 Edw. 3 (1345) and was succeeded by his son *Henry*, afterwards created duke of Lancaster. On the final partition between his two daughters and coheirresses, Passenham was assigned to *Blanch* the youngest, wife of John of Gaunt then earl of Richmond⁹, and subsequently duke of Lancaster; and on the accession of their son to the throne as king Henry IV. it merged with the duchy of Lancaster, in the crown.

In 7 Edw. 4 (1467) Passenham formed part of the provision made by the king for his queen¹⁰, Elizabeth Wideville.

From this period Passenham reposed in the crown, and no distinct mention occurs of it 'till the time of king *Charles* 1.st in the tenth year of whose reign Sir *Robert Banastre* laid claim to view of frank pledge, assise of bread, wine, and ale, and waifs within the manor of *Passenham* and hamlet of *Denshanger*, and common of pasture in the forest of *Whittlewood*! Sir Robert was three times married, and died at the age of eighty in Dec. 1649, having survived all his children. By his first wife he had a son *Laurence Banastre*, esq. but Passenham was settled on the issue of his third wife, an only daughter *Dorothy* the first wife of *William* second lord Maynard. This manor was assigned to their second son the hon. *William Maynard*, whose son *Thomas Maynard*, esq. devised his estates, including Passenham, to his first cousin, the hon. *Charles Maynard*. In 1745 he succeeded to the barony of Maynard; and in 1766 was created *VISCOUNT MAYNARD* to him and the heirs male of his body, remainder to the representative of the second line of the family, sir *William Maynard*, bart. and the heirs male of his body. He died unmarried in 1775 at the advanced age of eighty-five years, and sir *William* having pre-deceased him, the viscounty and the entailed estates devolved on his son sir *Charles Maynard*, bart. second viscount Maynard; on whose decease without issue in 1824 they descended to his nephew *Henry* third viscount Maynard, the present lord of this manor (1835).

¹ Inq. ad q. d. 16 Edw. 2, n. 81.

² Cardigan MSS. Nom. Vill. p. 9.

³ Rot. Pat. 12 Edw. 2, p. 1, m. 13.

⁴ Rot. Pat. 2, p. 41.

⁵ Rot. Orig. 20 Edw. 2, r. 9.

⁶ Rot. Pat. 2, p. 3.

⁷ Rot. Pat. 12 Edw. 2, p. 1, m. 13.

⁸ Inham MSS. No. 37, "Placit. 3 Edw. 3."

⁹ Ibid. "Placit. Coron. 3 Edw. 3, r. 35."

¹⁰ Rot. Pat. 3, p. 305, "Rot. Claus. anno 6 Edw. III. m. 14."

¹¹ Rot. Pat. 35 Edw. 3, p. 2, m. 7.

¹² Rot. Pat. 3, p. 328.

¹³ Rot. Pat. 3, p. 306.

¹⁴ Placit. Forest. de Whittlewood anno 16 Car. 1, apud Whitfield, n. 4."

¹⁵ Vide BRACKLEY, vol. 1, p. 563.

THE HOSPITAL OF ST. JOHN OF JERUSALEM had of the gift of Leticia de Ferrars, the tenement which William de Saraz held of her in Passenham, viz. the cotland which Leticia daughter of Alstan held, and so as Pagan afterwards held it; and a certain holm between two bridges, and eleven acres of her demesne in Duneshang, and the service of Roger son of the priest in Duneshang, and an acre of meadow in Sidenham near the church acre, and five roods covered with water; to hold quit of all services, so that Manser son of the said William de Saraz may hold of them the said tenement in right of inheritance, rendering to them 40d. yearly for all services ^a. By another deed Leticia gave to the blessed poor of the hospital of Jerusalem, for the souls of her father and mother, and her brother earl Robert, a certain virgate of her land which Spileman son of Wodeman held in Duneshang, together with Spileman himself with all his children and chattels, and Baldwin with all his children and chattels, and also the hospital of Stratford and two acres of land. The deed is witnessed by Richard Baligan, Hugh de Cheineil, and all the hallimote of Passenham ^a. In the list of founders and benefactors to the hospital, compiled by brother John Stillingflete in 1434, it is recorded that Leticia de Ferrars and William earl Ferrars gave many lands in Passenham, belonging to the preceptory of Dingley ^a—evidently allusive to the above donations, though the christian name of the earl is misquoted. In 27 Hen. 3 (1243) William Fitz-Walkelin and Joyce his wife, levied a fine of two messuages, two acres of land, and the moiety of a mill at Passenham to John Baligan son of Anketil Baligan ^b. Under the head of Blakesley manor in an undated roll of the possessions of the hospitallers is entered, 26s. 8d. yearly rent out of a *watermill* and fifteen acres of land which John Baligan holds in Passenham, 3s. yearly rent out of a certain tenement there, 2s. yearly rent out of a messuage and virgate of land there which John de Wykemilne holds, and view of frank-pledge of certain free tenants in Passenham belonging to the said manor in Blakesley worth 6d. yearly ^c.

THE MANOR HOUSE stood north of the church, and part is still remaining in a dilapidated state.

THE VILLAGE is about two miles from Stony Stratford on the road to Buckingham. It is one of the few which can be traced back to the Saxon era. In 921, the Danes having attacked and injured Towcester, king Edward the elder, after repulsing them, lay with his army at Passanham whilst that town was better secured against future irruptions by a stone wall ^d. Bridges, on the authority of Morton, conjectures that 'the almost square entrenchment which is still remaining near the old ford was probably raised upon this occasion as a guard to that passage over the Ouse ^e'. There are two old fords within the lordship, one adjoining Old Stratford ^f, and the other beyond Denshanger opposite Beachampton; but not the slightest indication of any earth work is now visible at either of them.

Bridges says 'it is now a village of six houses, and lies very low; but the whole parish including the hamlets is computed to contain about one hundred and twenty ^g'. By the census of 1801, Passenham and its members contained 128 houses and 685 inhabitants; by that of 1811, 95 houses and 533 inhabitants; by that of 1821, 159 houses and 753 inhabitants; and by that of 1831, 156 houses and 828 inhabitants. The annual quota of land tax for this parish is £261. 3s. 3½d. at 4s. in the £. The estimated value of real property as assessed to the property tax of 10 per cent. for the year ending April 1815 amounted to £3506. The poor rates for the year ending Easter 1832 raised £869. 2s. 0d. at 6s. in the £.

THE ADVOWSON formed part of the original endowment of the abbey of Cirencester in Gloucestershire founded by king Henry 1st; and in confirmation, William de Passenham, the mesne lord, levied a fine of it to abbot Henry in 53 Hen. 3 (1268) ^h. After the dissolution it remained in the crown till granted out with the manor, which it has accompanied down to Henry third viscount Maynard, the present patron.

THE RECTORY is in the deanry of Preston. It was rated in the taxations of 1254 (38 Hen. 3) ^h and of 1291 (20 Edw. 1) ⁱ at 15 marks (£10) *per ann.* exclusive of a yearly pension of 4 marks (£2. 13s. 4d.) to the abbey of Cirencester; and in the ecclesiastical survey of 1535 (26 Hen. 8) at £20 *per ann.* ^k. The parliamentary commissioners in 1635 certified "Passenham cum Densanger" to be a parsonage presentative worth £140 *per ann.* in the patronage of the heirs of sir Robert Bannister; and that Mr. John Harris the incumbent, received the profits, and supplied the cure ^l. The rectory now consists of 65 acres of glebe and the whole of the tithes of the old inclosure of Passenham; an allotment of 8a. 0r. 5p. for the glebe land and 117a. 0r. 23p. of land in lieu of tithes and moduses in Denshanger, awarded by the commissioners of inclosure. The sum of £2. 13s. 4d. *per ann.* out of the rectory of Passenham—doubtless the ancient pension of 4 marks paid to the abbey of Cirencester—was settled (*int. al.*) in 1692 by John Stork, gent. in trust for the poor of the parish of Middleton in Lancashire. The rectory house is a genteel residence south of the church, and has been much improved by the present incumbent.

RECTORS. *Hugh de London*, by the abbot and convent of Cirencester.

Mast. Thomas de Sudington, subdeacon, 9 June 1268.

William called Mauceler, clerk, 14 June 1299.

John de Leycestris, chaplain, 16 Nov. 1315.

Stephen de Aulton.

Henry Scaldewell, priest, 17 Nov. 1333. He exchanged for the vicarage of Desborough with

John Browne, priest, 1 Oct. 1342.

Reginald Porcell, priest, 28 Oct. 1343.

John son of William Pote, of Staverne, by the bishop, by the authority of the apostolic see, 21 July 1349.

John Petwardyn, priest, by the abbot and convent of Cirencester, 1 July 1355.

Richard de Eyneston, priest, 18 Nov. 1357.

John de Bruton, priest, 1 July 1360.

^a Rot. penes H. H. H. Hungerford arm.

^b Chron. Sax.

^c Cotton MSS. Nero D. x. fo. 100.

^d Vide p. 137.

^e Mon. Ang. 2, p. 546.

^f Br. 1, p. 305.

^g Tax. Eccl. p. 36.

^h Augm. Off.

ⁱ Hatton MSS. "Fin. 27 Hen. 3."

^j Mon. Ang. 2, p. 88.

^k Lambeth MSS. vol. 20.

^l Rot. penes H. H. H.

^m Hatton MSS. "Fin. 53 Hen. 3."

Nicholas de Spaigne, priest, 8 Nov. 1361.

Thomas de Ravenser, priest, 11 Apr. 1369.

John Bokyngham de Horewoode, chaplain, 26 Apr. 1402.

John Abberbury, clerk, 17 Feb. 1420.

Thomas Tallusach, clerk, 21 Aug. 1430.

Sir William Kelet, priest, 23 May 1467.

Mast. Thomas Knight, 20 Nov. 1500, already noticed under Badby.

William Atkynson, A.M. 7 Oct. 1524.

Mast. Hugh Cotton, LL.B. 5 Feb. 1524.

Sir Thomas Travell, 7 June 1536.

William Walker was presented by the queen and instituted 6 May 1559, on the decease of the last incumbent. His resignation introduced

Eduard Edgworth, who was inst. 3 Nov. 1580, on the presentation of the queen. He resigned, and

Richard Ryall was presented by the queen, and inst. 21 Dec. 1584.

John Milward, D.D. inst. 6 June 1605, on the presentation of the king.

John Aris, A.M. presented by the king, and inst. 3 Oct. 1626.

Abraham Whillocke, B.D. inst. 14 Dec. 1626, on the presentation of the king.

Nicholas Ryall, A.M. presented by the king, and inst. 17 Mar. 1626, and re-inst. 13 Nov. 1627. He was buried here 1 Aug. 1631, and

Anthony Smith was inst. 26 Nov. following, on the presentation of the king. On his cession

John Harris, A.M. was presented by the king, and inst. 1 May 1640. He has been previously introduced under Overston.

Anthony Taye, was inst. by the archbishop of Canterbury, the see of Peterborough being vacant, 31 Aug. 1660. He died 31 Aug. 1701, and

Edward Maynard, of Magd. coll. Oxf. D.D. of whom a brief account has been given under Boddington, was inst. 20 Oct. following, on the presentation of William Maynard, esq. His resignation introduced

Francis Hutchinson, of Katherine hall, Camb. A.B. 1680, A.M. 1684, D.D. 1698, who was presented by Thomas Maynard, esq. and inst. 13 Nov. 1706. He was a native of Carston in Dorsetshire, and nephew of Mr. Tallents, the chronologist. His first preferment was the vicarage of Horn in Suffolk, and then the parish of St. James in Bury St. Edmund's. In 1720 he was elevated to the united see of Down and Connor in Ireland, and died in June 1739. He was a voluminous author of sermons and tracts, as the following list will abundantly testify. 1. A sermon at the primary visitation of John (Moore) bishop of Norwich, 1689. 2. A sermon at the Cambridge commencement July 1698, at his taking the degree of D.D. 3. An English grammar. 4. A compassionate address to Papists. 5. The history of the French prophets. 6. A defence of the liberty of the clergy, in their choice of proctors for convocation, &c. 7. An Assize sermon, 1707. 8vo. 8. A Thanksgiving sermon for the union of England and Scotland, 1707, reprinted 1734. 9. A sermon at his primary visitation at Lisburn. 10. An historical essay concerning Witchcraft, with two sermons, and a defence of the compassionate address to Papists, 1720. 11. A state of the case of the Island of Raghlin off the north coast of Antrim; to which is annexed the Church catechism translated into Irish and printed in columns, both in English and Irish, and called the Raghlin catechism. 12. A Letter to a gentleman of the landed interest, concerning a Bank in Ireland. 13. A

Letter to a member of parliament, concerning employing and providing for the Poor. 14. A second Letter to the same gentleman recommending the improvement of the Irish fishery. 15. An Irish almanack. 16. The many advantages of a good language to any Nation. 17. Advice concerning the manner of receiving Popish converts. 18. A sermon before the lords justices of Ireland. 19. A sermon on the 30th of January, before the duke of Grafton and the house of lords. 1723. 20. A sermon on the 5th of November before the house of lords, with an appendix proving pope John to be pope Joan. 1731. 21. A defence of the ancient historians, with a particular application of it to the history of Ireland and Great Britain, and other northern Nations. 1734. 8vo. 22. The state of the case of Lough Neagh and the Bann. 1738. 23. The certainty of Protestants a safer foundation than the infallibility of Papists. 1738.

After holding this rectory in commendam with his Irish bishoprick seven years, he resigned, and

John Jenkinson, A.B. was inst. 31 May 1727, on the presentation of the king, for this turn. He was buried here 25 June 1762, and Charles lord Maynard presented

Richard Forester, of Pembroke coll. Camb. A.M. vicar of Ashwell in Hertfordshire, who was inst. 5 Oct. following. He was buried here 22 Apr. 1769, and

John Law, A.M. was inst. 15 May following on the presentation of Charles viscount Maynard, but resigned in a few months, when

Pulter Forester, of Peter house, Camb. D.D. was presented by the same patron, and inst. Nov. 1769. A brief account of him has been introduced under Cosgrave, where he was buried 4 Aug. 1778, and

John Hey, of Katherine hall, Camb. A.B. 1755, and of Sidney Sussex coll. Camb. A.M. 1758, B.D. 1765, and D.D. 1780, was inst. 29 Sept. 1779 on the presentation of Charles second viscount Maynard. He was born in July 1734, and was the son of Richard Hey of Pudsey in Yorkshire, and brother of William Hey, F.R.S., the celebrated surgeon at Leeds. He had the neighbouring rectory of Calverton in Buckinghamshire, and was one of the preachers of his Majesty's chapel at Whitehall. In 1780 he was elected the first Norrisian professor of divinity in the university of Cambridge. In 1785, and again in 1790, the professorship became vacant by the will of Mr. Norris the founder, and he was each time re-elected. In 1795 he ceased to be professor; being too old, by the will, to be re-elected, and having declined vacating the professorship in 1794, in order to be re-elected within the prescribed age. He divested himself of both his rectories in 1814, and removed to London, where he died in March 1815. His character needs no other eulogium than the "grateful tribute of respect to his memory" in a succeeding page. When tutor in Sidney college, he gave lectures on Morality which were attended by several persons voluntarily (amongst whom were the late Mr. Pitt and other persons of rank) besides those pupils whose attendance was required. These lectures have not been printed; but he published: Redemption; a Sestonian prize poem, 1763. 4to. The nature of obsolete Ordinances; a sermon on Heb. viij. 18. 1773. 8vo. A sermon before the university of Cambridge. 1774. 8vo. Nature of malevolent sentiments; two sermons on Ephesians, iv. 31. 1774. 8vo. Discourses on the malevolent sentiments, 1801. 8vo. 1815. 8vo. A Fast sermon on Jerem. xlvij. 6. 1775. 8vo. A sermon before the governors of Addenbrooke's hospital, Cambridge, 26 June 1777. 8vo. 1778. Thoughts on the Athanasian creed; a sermon.

1790. 8vo. Lectures in Divinity, delivered in the university, Cambridge, 1796-8. 4 vols. 8vo. Seven sermons preached on several occasions. 8vo. General observations on the writings of St. Paul. 1811. 4to. Substance of a bill respecting Parish Registers (as amended by the committee) ordered by the house of commons to be printed 21 June 1811: with remarks. 1811. 8vo. On his resignation *Loraine Loraine Smith*, of Christ coll. Camb. LL.B. was presented by the same patron, and inst. 24 Nov. 1814.

THE REGISTERS in the time of Bridges commenced in 1570; but do not now begin till 1695.

THE CHURCH is dedicated to St. Guthlac, a Saxon saint, of whom a most circumstantial memoir will be found in Nichols's Leicestershire^m. It consists of a tower with a pinnacle at each angle, (formerly surmounted by a spire which is supposed to have fallen down more than a century ago,) nave, and chancel. In the tower are five bells; on the first is inscribed, *Sancta Anna ara pro nobis*; and on the fifth ~~ERMO DONO ROSARI BANASTRE MITTIS IDETES~~. The nave has three windows on each side, but no clerestory. Over the south door of the chancel within an ornamented square compartment *Banastre*, impaling *Ern.* on two bars six mullets, and inscribed: "ROBERT BANASTREIUS MILES. Quid retribuam tibi, Domine, pro omnibus Beneficiis mihi datis? Anno Domini 1626. Stulte, hac Nocte." The tower is 14ft. 4in. long by 10ft. wide; the nave 56ft. 2in. long by 23ft. 4in. wide; and the chancel 27ft. 10in. long by 20ft. 2in. wide. The interior is well paved with stone, and uniformly pedwed. The pulpit is handsomely carved; and on four of the faces, are the rose and crown for England, the thistle for Scotland, the fleurs de lis for France, and the harp for Ireland; round the sounding board in gold letters, "Crie aloud, spare not lift up thy voice like a trumpet, shew my people their transgressions. Isai. 58. 1;" and at the back of the pulpit "Despise not prophesying." The chancel ~~was~~ parted from the nave by a richly carved screen which has been removed, and the entablature now forms the base of a gallery which stretches across the west end of the nave, and on the front of which is painted a list of benefactors. The chancel has a coved roof of oak springing from a rich cornice. It is wainscoted round, and there are seven carved stalls on each side supported by ionic pillars, and inscribed on the north side, S. Petrus, 1628. S. Andreas. S. Jacobus Major. S. Johannes. S. Philippus. S. Bartholomaeus. S. Matthaeus: and on the south side, Saint Thomas. Sanct^{us} Jacobus Minor. Saint Simon. Sanct^{us} Judas Thadeus. Sanct^{us} Lucas. Sanctus Matthias. Sanctus Paulus.

'Against the south wall,' says Bridgesⁿ, 'are the following figures and inscriptions:

NICODEMUS.

Corpus ad humanum nunc portat aromata Christi,
Quo magis impensis condecoret propriis.

MATTHEUS.

Divo hominis facies Matthaeo adstare videtur,
Unum hominem Christum nam docet atq; Deum.

LUCAS.

Sancte, tibi vitulus, Luca, incunabula Christi
Dum bene describis, Bethleemamq; domum.

JOANNES.

Instar Joannes aquilae mysteria pandit
Summa Dei, et Christum predicat esse AOTON.

On the north side are these:

JOSEPHUS ARIMATHAENSIS.

Detrahit affixum ligno jam corpus Jesu,
Atq; illud proprio deposuit tumulo.

DANIEL.

Impius in Christum venturo tempore surget,
Indicat hoc Cornu Dux pecoris minimo.

EZECHIEL.

Transibat Dominus portam quae clausa manebat,
Hacq; Dei genetrix Virgo notata fuit.

JEREMIAS.

Aspexi virgam ferventemq; ignibus ollam,
Quae ventura brevi tristitia damna notant.

ESAIAS.

Indutus sacco, plantis et vertice nudus
Incessi, tandem mors tuihi scera fuit.

These figures and inscriptions were, I presume, painted on the walls over the wainscot, but not a trace of them now remains.

MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS.

CHANCEL. I. On the south wall is a handsome alabaster monument painted and gilt. In the centre within a circle is a well executed bust of sir Robert Banastre, in a plain doublet and mantle, holding a book in his right hand: above, within an open pediment, the arms of *Banastre*, and below, on a black tablet:

MEMORIE SACRUM.

St ROBERT BANASTRE K^t. BORNE AT WEM IN Y^e COUNTIE OF SALOP,
BRED UP IN Y^e COURT, WHERE HEE SERVED 3 PRINCES IN PLACES EMI-
NENT. A MAN PRUDENT CHARITABLE & VERY INDUSTRIOUS. HEE BUILT &
BEAUTIFIED THIS FAIRE CHAUNCELL WHERE HIS BODIE IS INTERRED. HEE
HAD 3 WIVES & SEVERALL CHILDREN BY HIS LAST ONE ONELY DAUGHT^r
MARRIED TO Y^e RIGHT HONOURABLE Y^e LORD MAYNERD BY WHOM HEE HAD Y^e
MANOR C^t. HEE DIED Y^e 15 OF DE-
CEMBER 1649 AGED ABOUT
80.

^m Vide vol. 4, pt. 1, p. 1.

ⁿ Br. 1, p. 306.

CLELEY HUNDRED.

II. Collateral to the last, on a neat cenotaph of white and dove-coloured marble, by Westmacott:

THE REMAINS OF JOHN HEY, D. D.
ARE DEPOSITED IN THE BURYING GROUND OF ST. JOHN'S CHAPEL,
IN THE PARISH OF ST. MARYLEBONE, LONDON, IN WHICH PARISH HE DIED
17th MARCH 1815, AGED 80.

THIS TABLET

A GRATEFUL TRIBUTE OF RESPECT TO HIS MEMORY—ALAS! HOW IMPERFECT
A TESTIMONY OF AFFECTION AND ESTEEM!—IS RAISED AND INSCRIBED
BY THE EARL OF CLARENDON AND VISCOUNT MAYNARD,
AND BY SOME OF THE PARISHIONERS OF PASSENHAM, THE PLACE OF HIS
RESIDENCE AND MINISTRY FOR 32 YEARS—
—AND, SURELY, NOT AN UNPROFITABLE MEMORIAL, IF IT MAY CHANCE TO
REVIVE THE REMEMBRANCE OF HIS ADVICE, OR EXCITE AN ADDITIONAL
SIGN OF GRATITUDE AND REGRET TO DEPARTED WORTH—TO THAT
PURE AND BENIGN SPIRIT, SO LONG, SO WISELY, AND SO AMIABLY ASSIDUOUS
IN THE MOST SCRUPULOUS DISCHARGE OF EVERY PASTORAL DUTY.

III. On the north wall is an oval marble tablet; arms:
Ar. a chevron [Vt.] between three bugle horns stringed
G. *Forester*. Crest. On a wreath, a buck trippant Pp.
armed O.

The Rev^d RICHARD FORESTER, M.A.
Rector of this Church
and youngest son of PULTER FORESTER
of the County of HERTFORD, *Esg^t*
died April 19th 1769 Aged 42.
This Monument was
erected by order
of his Eldest Brother
PULTER FORESTER, D.D.

IV. On the west wall:
ROBERTUS BANASTREIUS MILES
Hanc sacram ædem (ad laudem Dei) propriis
Sumptibus condidit, ætatis suæ anno 56.
An'o q; Domini 1626.

On slabs within the altar rails:

1. HERE LYETH Y^e BODY OF S^t Rob^t
BANASTRE K^t who DEPARTED Y^e
LIFE Y^e 15th of DECEMB^r ANNO 1649.

2. M. S.
HIC JACET REVERENDUS VIR
ANTONIUS TRYE
A. M. CANTAB.
A STIRPE GENEROSA GLOCESTR.
HUIUS ECCLESIE
PER ANNOS XLV
PASTOR FIDELIS ET INDEFESSUS
ECCLESIE QUE ANGLICANE
FILIIUS OBSEQUENS
PUGIL ACER.
ERGA DEUM AC PROXIMUM
ÆQUE PIUS;
CUJUS PECTUS DOMUS MANUS
EGENIS SEMPER PATERANT
QUI VIVERE ET BENE FACERE
DESUIT
A. Æ. LXXIX
A. D. MDCCIIⁱ

MARITO OPTIME MERITO POSUIT
MERENS VIDUA.

3. HERE LYETH THE BODY OF
ANTONY TRYE GENT.
THE SONE OF ANTHONY
TRYE GENT, WHO DEPARTED
THIS LIFE THE 16th DAY OF
MAY 1698.

4. HERE LYETH THE BODY OF M^{rs}
MARY PARGITER DAUGHTER
OF M^r THOMAS PARGITER
WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE
THE 12th DAY OF MARCH
1694

ÆTATIS SUÆ 20.

5. GULIELMUS LEONARDUS
MACKDOWALL INFANS
OBIT XBER 25, 1713.

ELIZABETH MACKDOWALL
A dutifull and pious Child
fell asleep on May y^e 24 1720
Aged about 15 years.

Lord let us die the death of the Innocent
And let our latter end be like Hers.

6. On a brass plate in small capitals:

HERE LYETH THE BODYE OF A RELIGIOUS & MOST VERTUOUS
GENTLEWOMAN NAMED ANNA PYGGOTT YOUNGEST DAUGHTER
OF THOMAS PYGGOTT OF DODDERSHALL ESQUIER WIFE TO
WILLIAM CARPENTER NOW OF DENSHANGER IN THIS P^{ar}ISH.
WHO HAD BY HERSAIDE HUSBAND SIX CHILDREN VIZ RICHARD,
WILLIAM, THOMAS, MARY, ANTHONIE & ELIZABETH, AND SHE
DIED OF HER SEAVENTH CHILDE: THIS GENTLEWOMAN WAS OF
WORSHIPFULL BYRTH, YET OF MOST HUMBLE AND LOWLY
BEHAVIOR TO ALL PERSONS ALWAYS READY & MOST FORWARD
TO COMFORT & CHERRISH Y^e SICK OR ANYIN NECESSITIE DAYLIE
RELIEVING Y^e POOR TO HER POWER MOST LIBERALLY, & AS
SHE LIVED RELIGIOUSLYE AND IN THE FEARE OF GOD, SO SHE
DIED [OF GOD,
THE COMFORTABLE & MOST FAITHFULL SERVANT & CHILDE
AND IN THE TRUE FAITH & LOVE OF CHRIST & MOST COM-
FORTABLE [SAVIOUR
FEELING AND ASSURANCE OF HER SALVATION IN JESUS HER
SHE DEPARTED THIS LIFE THE XVth DAY OF FEBRUARY 1611.
AND NOW HER SOULE IS IN HEAVEN IN ETERNAL GLORY AND
IS PARTAKER OF THE EVERLASTING HAPPINESS.
SUCH A LIFE SUCH A DEATH.

On the same slab:

To the Memory
of the Rev. Mr. Jenkinson
Rector of this Parish.
And Anne His wife
She dyed Octob^r y^e 10th 1751
Aged 70 Years.
He dyed June y^e 22nd 1762
Aged 71.

THE CHURCH YARD adjoins the parsonage, and attracts attention by its extreme neatness, having been ornamented with choice shrubs and gravel walks by the present incumbent.

BENEFACTIONS. (Vide p. 117.) **CARPENTER'S CHARITY** originated in a deed of gift by Anthony Carpenter dated 16 Dec. 1642, whereby the rents of the premises comprised in the settlement were directed to be distributed every mid-lent Sunday to twenty poor families resident in Denshanger, and the precincts and liberties thereof. The property in its present state consists of six neat cottages in Denshanger, recently erected on the site of seven old cottages which were destroyed by fire; and an allotment of 2a. 2r. of land awarded on the inclosure of Denshanger for cottage rights.

The cottages are let to different persons as yearly tenants at £3 *per ann.* each, and the allotment at £3. 2s. 6d. *per ann.*

"There has been no distribution of the rent of the charity estate for several years past, the rent before the fire being insufficient, or not more than sufficient to defray the expense of keeping the cottages in repair. The expense of the new buildings has been defrayed with the sum of £168 for which the old cottages had been insured, and £260 borrowed at £5 per cent. with a condition of being paid off by such instalments as the charity funds might allow. There is also a sum of £20 due to the parish for money paid to the late treasurer to discharge a balance due to him for advances on account of the charity."

ALLEN'S COMMONLY CALLED JERVIS'S CHARITY. Daniel Allen by will 10 Oct. 1683 devised three cottages and certain land in Denshanger to Robert Jervis and his wife for life, remainder to James Jervis for life, remainder to the use of the poor of Denshanger; and the estate was conveyed by a deed executed in 1822 to the rector and churchwardens and their successors, in trust for the poor of Denshanger, according to Allen's will.

This estate consists of the three cottages mentioned in the will, two other cottages purchased in 1781 with £24 arising from the estate, and an allotment of 11a. 0r. 1p. of land awarded in lieu of the land given by the will.

The cottages are let to the overseers of the poor at rents amounting together to £10 *per ann.* and the allotment at £14. 7s. 6d. *per ann.* The rents after deducting the expense of occasional repairs of the cottages, is laid out in the purchase of linen, which is distributed among the poor of the parish, each poor person being supplied with a shirt or shift.

SWANNELL'S GIFT. John Swannell by will 12 Mar. 1707, charged a messuage and orchard or close of pasture in Denshanger with the yearly sum of £2. 10s. for teaching poor children of Denshanger to read and write. This annuity is paid to a schoolmistress for instructing six poor children, appointed by the rector and churchwardens.

NICOL'S CHARITY. Thomas Nicol of London by will 15 May 1726 charged his messuage and farm in Denshanger, with the payment of £13. 4s. yearly for different charitable purposes; and directed, among other things, that 22s. part of the rent charge should be yearly laid out in twelpenny loaves on Easter Monday, to as many ancient poor people of Denshanger that constantly go to church to hear divine service.

The estate thus charged has been long divided into two portions; one belonging to Mr. W. Golby and the other late belonging to Mr. Robt. Wall, and sold by him in 1824 to Mr. Cox of Sherrington in Buckinghamshire. That part of the rent charge which was given for the poor of Denshanger, being 22s. yearly, is paid in the proportionate sums of 5s. 6d. yearly out of the first, and 16s. 6d. out of the second portion.

WHITTON'S CHARITY. Edward Whitton formerly of Denshanger, and late of Northampton, by will 18 Dec. 1766 bequeathed the interest of £100 to be given yearly in bread on the 5th of January to such poor persons as do not receive alms or collection from the parish. The executors laid out the £100 in the purchase of £114. 12s. 3d. Old S. Sea annuities, in the names of the rector and churchwardens of Passenham, Denshanger, and that part of Old Stratford which is in the parish of Passenham, and the yearly dividend of £3. 3s. 8d. is distributed according to the will.

DENSHANGER

forms the western division of Passenham parish, bordering on Wicken. It is within the limits of Whittlebury forest, which adjoins it on the north. It contains, exclusive of the forest land, about 900 acres, which were inclosed by act of parliament in 12 Geo. 3 (1772).

MANORIAL HISTORY. Denshanger, though now and for centuries past a considerable hamlet, does not occur either in domesday or the hydarium of Hen. 2, and there is no evidence of its having been detached from Passenham earlier than the reign of Edward 1st, when it was granted out by the king to

Elias de Tingewick, the warden or master forester of Whittlewood forest*. In 1 Edw. 2 (1307) the king made a reversionary grant of the manor of Denshanger, with a certain wood in Whitlewode, and a messuage six acres of meadow and £4. 6s. yearly rent in Denshanger, Passenham, Wyke Dyve, Wyke Hamon, Stony Stratford, Cosgrave,

* Charity commissioners' 14th report, p. 218.

* Vide p. 49.

Fortho, Pokesley, Whitfield, Heymundcote or Heathencote, Whittlebury, and Yardley (Gobion) in this county, and Wolverton in Buckinghamshire, subject to the life of Agnes de Tingewick, to

John de Hausted in fee tail, by the service of the fortieth part of a fee¹; who, in a plea 3 Edw. 3 (1322) was found to hold this manor, as a member of Passenham, by the above service². He was probably son of sir Robert de Hausted of HARPOLE³. In 11 Edw. 2 (1317) he was in the Scotch expedition, with power to receive all into protection who submitted themselves to the king⁴; in 15 Edw. 2, he was assigned to pursue certain rebels, and commanded to appear before the king with his commission to shew how he had executed it⁵; and in 16 Edw. 2, was returned, pursuant to the commission for raising and arming the men at arms of the county of Bucks between the ages of sixteen and sixty, as a knight accustomed to arms, fit for service, and in company with the king⁶. He was summoned to parliament from 6 to 9 Edw. 3, and died the following year (1336); leaving *William de Hausted* his son and heir aged thirty years⁷, who, however, does not rank among the parliamentary barons, no writ of summons having been addressed to him. He died without issue, and in 19 Edw. 3 (1345) Robert de Paveley escheator of the county was commanded to take fealty of *Elizabeth* his sister and heiress for two thirds of the manor of Deneshanger⁸; and in 2 Hen. 4 (1400) *Anne*, his widow, died seised of the other third, which had been assigned to her in dower⁹; subject to which, the manor with the annexed rents having escheated to the crown on the decease of Elizabeth Hausted, was purchased in 21 Ric. 2 (1398) by

John Cope, esq. for 100 marks (£66. 13s. 4d.) who in 1 Hen. 4 (1399) in consideration of the good services which he had rendered to the king, obtained an exemplification of the late king's grant, and a remission of the 60 marks (£40) then remaining unpaid of the purchase money¹⁰. He was twice sheriff of the county, and represented it in five parliaments. From him sprang all the branches of this once numerous and opulent family¹¹. He died in 2 Hen. 5 (1417) and was succeeded by his eldest son *John Cope* aged eighteen years¹²; but having a little before his death, conveyed this Manor to *John Longueville*, Esq. and other feoffees, who had re-conveyed it to him and *Joane* his wife, for the term of their respective lives, with remainder to their heirs, without the king's licence, it was upon this occasion seised into the hands of *Roger Flore* the King's Escheator, and not given back till the said *John Longueville* had paid a fine of five marks, and obtained pardon for this transgression¹³. On the death of Joan widow of this John Cope, esq. in 13 Hen. 6 (1435) this manor descended to the eldest surviving son *Stephen Cope* a minor twenty years of age¹⁴, who 'committed a like offence with his father, in conveying the Manor to *John Trautbek*, Esq. and other feoffees without licence from the king¹⁵, but was pardoned this transgression in the twenty-fourth of Henry VI. upon paying a fine of two marks¹⁶; and the same year licence¹⁷ was granted to *John Trautbek* and others, to convey the said Manor to *Joane* the wife of *Stephen Cope* for the term of her life, with remainder to the right heirs of the said *Stephen*¹⁸. In 6 Hen. 7 (1490) *James Edy*, and *Philippa* his wife, were in possession of this manor, but by writ of disseisin it was recovered against them by *Edward Cope*, esq. grandson of *Stephen*, who died in 2 Hen. 8 (1510) leaving an only daughter and heiress *Anne* nine years of age¹⁹, who was successively married to *William Lovett*, esq. and *John Heneage*, esq. but is presumed to have died without issue.

In Queen Elizabeth's time it is said to have been once more in the possession of the crown²⁰; and that *Ralph Winwood*, Esq. afterwards Secretary Winwood²¹, being tenant of it under the Queen, did in 1599, upon the sales that were then made of the Crown-lands, desire leave to purchase it; but was disappointed, by reason it was parcel of the Honor of Grafton, and so not within the commission for sale. However, it was passed to the use of one *Kettering* Receiver of *Northamptonshire*. From him it probably came to sir Robert Banastre²², who in the tenth year of Charles I. claimed, as we have seen, to have view of frank pledge, assize of bread, wine, and ale, and waifs within the manor of Passenham, and hamlet of Denshanger, and common of pasture in *Whittlewood forest*²³.

The manor of Denshanger is presumed to have subsequently descended with Passenham to Henry lord viscount Maynard, but the lands are distributed amongst various proprietors.

THE VILLAGE is about two miles from Stony Stratford, on the turnpike road to Buckingham, and is intersected by the canal to Buckingham. In the time of Bridges it contained 'about eighty houses;' but is now considerably increased. The population is included under the general return of Passenham.

THE WESLEYAN METHODISTS have a small chapel here.

RICHARD CARPENTER, a versatile divine of the seventeenth century, was a native of Denshanger, and eldest son, I presume, of William Carpenter and Anne Pygott²⁴. He was educated at Eton, from whence he was elected scholar of King's college Cambridge, in 1622, where he continued three years, and then finished his studies in Flanders, Artois, France, Spain, and Italy. Having entered the order of St. Benedict, he received holy orders at Rome, and was sent into England by the pope to make proselytes; but in the course of the succeeding year he conformed to the church of England, and through the archbishop of Canterbury's influence obtained the vicarage of Poling in Sussex. Here he was much annoyed by the insults and reproaches of the Papists, particularly by Francis à S. Clara who exposed him to scorn before his parishioners. Before the close of the civil wars he quitted his living, repaired to Paris, and reconciling himself to the Romish church again, became a bitter railer against the protestants. Returning to England, he settled at Aylesbury, where he had some relations. He was now a protestant, and frequently preached in the most fantastical manner, more to the mirth than the edification of his auditors. A specimen of his punning

¹ Hatton MSS. 'Curt. 1 Edw. 2, n. 21.'

² Inham MSS. 'Plac. Coron. 3 Edw. 3, r. 55.'

³ Rot. Scot. 11 Edw. 2.

⁴ Parl. Writs.

⁵ pt. 2, p. 184.

⁶ Ibid. pt. 1, p. 610.

⁷ Rot. Orig. 19 Edw. 3, r. 11.

⁸ Rot. Fin. anno 2 Hen. V. m. 4.

⁹ Esc. 2 Hen. 4, n. 23.

¹⁰ Rot. Pat. 1 Hen. 4, p. 2, m. 20.

¹¹ Esc. 2 Hen. 5, n. 20.

¹² Br. 1, p. 309.

¹³ Rot. Fin. anno 2 Hen. V. m. 4.

¹⁴ Esc. 13 Hen. 6, n.

¹⁵ Br. 1, p. 309.

¹⁶ Rot. Fin. anno 24 Hen. 6, n. 1.

¹⁷ Ibid.

¹⁸ Pat. anno 24 Hen. VI. p. 2, m. 28.

¹⁹ Esc. 2 Hen. 6, n. 62.

²⁰ Br. 1, p. 308.

²¹ State Papers published by Mr. Sawyer, vol. 1, p. 81.

²² Ibid.

²³ Pleas. Forest. anno 10 Car. 1.

²⁴ Br. 1, p. 308.

²⁵ Vide p. 194.

²⁶ Vide vol. 1, p. 177.

²⁷ Vide GRIMSBURY, vol. 1, p. 748.

²⁸ Vide ANNO, vol. 1, p. 359.

²⁹ Vide p. 194.

style occurs at the close of his Experience, History, and Divinity: "I humbly desire all clean-hearted and right spirited people who shall read this book, (which because the presse was oppressed, seems to have been suppressed, when it was by little and little impressed, but now at least hath pressed through the presse into the publicke,) first to restore it by correcting these errata," &c. He was still residing at Aylesbury in 1670, but subsequently removed, and was a third time converted to popery, in which faith he died. "Those that knew him," says Anthony Wood, "have often told me that he was an impudent fantastical man, that changed his mind with his cloaths, and that for his juggles and tricks in matters of religion, he was esteemed a theological mountebank."

He published in 1642 a treatise entitled Experience, History, and Divinity, in five Books, 8vo. dedicated to the parliament then sitting. In this publication he introduced some particulars of his personal history, and re-published it in 1648 under the title of the downfall of Antichrist. His other works are, The perfect Law of God; being a Sermon and no Sermon, preached and yet not preached. 1652 & 1665. 8vo. The Anabaptist washed, and shrunk in the washing. 1653. 12mo. The Jesuit and the Monk; a Sermon. 1656. 4to. The last and highest appeal; or an appeal to God against the new Religion makers, dressers, menders, or venders amongst us. 1656. 12mo. Astrology proved harmless, pious, useful; being a Sermon on Gen. 1. 14. "And let them be for signs;" dedicated to Elias Ashmole, 1657. 4to. Rome in her fruits, a Sermon on Matth. 7. 16; in reply to a pamphlet entitled Reasons why the Roman catholics should not be persecuted, &c. 1662. 4to. The pragmatical Jesuit, a comedy. There are three engraved portraits of this eccentric author, all of which are scarce: 1. In a clerical habit, by Marshall; prefixed to his Experience, History, and Divinity. 2. With a face looking on him, out of the mouth of which issues a serpent, and out of the serpent's mouth, fire, by Faithorne; at the end of the epistle dedicatory to his Astrology harmless, &c. 3. In a genteel lay habit, by Cross; prefixed to the Pragmatical Jesuit.

HOLYWELL AND LITTLE LONDON

are two small hamlets, a short distance north of Denschanger.

HOLYWELL is supposed to be so named from a neighbouring well, in which prior to the inclosure it was customary to dip the novice boys when the parochial boundary was perambulated.

At the domestic survey *Alric* held of the earl of Moreton the third part of a virgate, then waste, at "Holewellek," which may not improbably be placed here. No notice of it, however, occurs in any subsequent record: and Little London is not mentioned in any record.

LITTLE LONDON contains about twenty, and HOLYWELL about five or six houses.

PUXLEY,

written Pocheslei and Pocheslai in domesday, and Pokell, Pokesle, Pukesley, and Puxley in early records, lies north of Passenham within the limits of Whittlebury forest.

MANORIAL HISTORY. TERRA REGIS OR ANCIENT DEMESNE *. This portion of "Pocheslei" was surveyed in domesday with Passenham †. In the hydarium of Hen. 2, it is described as four small virgates of the fee of king David; but before the expiration of the same reign, this estate reverting from the Scotch to the English monarch, was annexed to the wardenship of Whittlebury forest, and the mansion here became the official residence of the lord warden. The chronological succession to the office from Broneman the first grantee, its temporary estrangement from the lords of Puxley through non-claim, and its ultimate restoration to them, have been already detailed ‡, and leave but little to add in illustration of the descent of this property. In 3 Edw. 3 (1329) *John le Forester* of Stony Stratford was summoned by writ of *quo warranto* to shew by what right he claimed in Pokesl' which is a hamlet of Passenham, for himself and his heirs, free ingress and egress in the king's demesne woods in the forest of Whittlewood with all their beasts, and the run of all the forest for their swine; and acquittance from pannage, and the expeditation or laving of their dogs, and from toll in all markets and fairs; and authority to take pannage from his men whenever the

* Domesd. fo. 224.

† Cotton MSS. Vesp. E. xlii. fo. 96.

‡ Vide KINGSTON, vol. 1, p. 39.

+ Vide p. 188.

§ Vide WHITTLEBURY FOREST, p. 78.

king's agistors took pannage; and view of frank pledge of his men, with the chattels of fugitives and convicted felons wherever they might be found; and bushels and gallons and other measures according to the king's assize; and amerzements of his tenants in Pokesley for hue and cry, and shedding of blood, and bread and beer sold contrary to the assize. The jurors presented, that he and his ancestors had immemorially enjoyed the view of frank pledge twice a year, at Easter and Michaelmas, and acquittance from tolls in all markets and fairs within the county; but having fined offenders against the assize 20d. instead of the legal punishment of pillory and tumbrel, the view was taken into the king's hands, and restored again for half a mark^w. In 21 Edw. 3 (1347) *Thomas le Forester* paid 50s. for licence to settle the mansion of Pokesley with a carucate of land there and in Leye on himself and Joan his wife, remainder on their issue, remainder to his right heirs^v. He died in 30 Edw. 3 (1356) leaving two daughters and coheirresses, *Joan* aged five, and *Eleanor* aged three years^x, who appear to have survived but a few years; for in 35 Edw. 3 (1361) another *Thomas le Forester* died seised of *this* and other estates, and his sisters *Isabella* wife of *Richard de Hardreshull*, *Lucy* wife of *Simon Rous*, and *John de Broughton*, son of *Pauline* the third sister, were found to be his heirs^y. In 46 Edw. 3 (1372)

John Goderich was in possession of this manor of Puxley, having purchased it of *William de Leycestre* and *Agnes* his wife^z; and in 50 Edw. 3 (1376) a fine was levied to him of a third part of this manor with a third part of the advowson of the chapel of Little Stratford^c. In him the wardenship of the forest and Puxley were again united^a. The next possessor was

Sir John Chaumbré^b; and in 5 Hen. 5 (1417) *sir Thomas Green* died seised of them^u; from whom they have passed with the manor of *NORWICH*,—except occasional severances of the wardenship during the reigns of the Charleses—down to *George-Henry 4th duke of Grafton, K.G.*

BAIEUX FEE^{*}. HONOR OF LEICESTER[†]. The other portion of "*Pocheslai*" was the Saxon freehold of *Almar*, and at the domesday survey was held by *William* (Peverel) under the bishop of Baieux. It consisted only of half a hide wanting the fifth part. The arable land was one carucate; half of which was in the occupation of one villein with one bordar. It was rated at 4s. yearly^s. In the hydarium of Hen. 2

Robert Ryvell or *Revell*[‡] was certified to hold six small virgates in Pokesley of the fee of the earl of Leicester⁷, to whom the paramourcy was transferred after the forfeiture of the bishop of Baieux. In 3 Ric. (1191) *Robert Revell* owed £100 for seisin of his lands in Cosgrave, Puxley, and other places in the county^r. In the Testa de Nevill about 19 Hen. 3 (1235) *Roger Revell* answered for a small fee (*int. al.*) in Puxley parcel of the five fees which *Richard de Keynes* § held of the small fees of Moreton^s, and this fee again occurs amongst the five fees held by *sir Thomas Leukenore*—the representative of *Keynes*, under the late *Edmund earl of Lancaster* and *Leicester* in 25 Edw. 1 (1297)^b.

MANOR. In 2 Edw. 3 (1328) *Henry Spigurnell* || died seised of 50 acres of wood in Puxley^c; and in 14 Edw. 3 (1340) *Henry Burghersh* bishop of Lincoln died seised of certain lands in Pokesley held by different tenures, and an assart called *Spigurnell Stokying* or *Spurnell Stokying*, held of the king by the service of 3s. 4d. yearly, leaving *Walter de Paveley* his heir^d, who did fealty for the assart^e.

Richard Beauchamp earl of Warwick ¶ settled the manor of Puxley on his marriage with *Isabella* le Despencer countess of Worcester in 2 Hen. 6 (1423)^f and it eventually devolved on their daughter *Anne* wife of *Richard Neville* earl of Warwick, who in her widowhood in 3 Hen. 7 (1487) conveyed it with the rest of her inheritance to

The King and his heirs^g. It was annexed to the honor of Grafton in 33 Hen. 8 (1541) and is now blended with the other moiety of Puxley by unity of ownership in *George-Henry 4th duke of Grafton, K.G.*

THE VILLAGE, which in the fourteenth century contained between thirty and forty houses^d, is now reduced to a farm house—the site probably of the old mansion—and a few cottages.

FOREST LODGES.

Two of the keeper's lodges in Whittlebury forest are in the parish of Passenham.

HANGER LODGE is appropriated to the keeper of that walk.

SHROB LODGE, towards the close of the seventeenth century, was fitted up for the residence of *Thomas Willis*, esq. of Whaddon in Buckinghamshire, son of the celebrated physician *Dr. Willis*, and father of *Browne Willis*, esq. the indefatigable Buckinghamshire antiquary. It has been subsequently occupied by the keeper of the walk, but retains some traces of its former respectability.

^m Quo. Warr. 3 Edw. 3.

ⁿ Esc. 35 Edw. 3, n. 85.

^o Ric. 3, p. 3, m. 4.

^p Vesp. E. xii. fs. 96.

^q Esc. 13 Edw. 3, n. 19.

^r Vide HARTWELL, p. 183.

^s Vide COSGRAVE, p. 130.

^t Esc. 21 Edw. 3, p. 2, n. 36; & Rot. Orig. 21 Edw. 3, r. 60.

^u Esc. (Inq. ad q. d.) 46 Edw. 3, n. 40.

^v Rot. Fin. 16 Ric. 2, m. 1.

^w Pip. Northt. 3 Ric.

^x Rot. Orig. 16 Edw. 3, r. 17.

^y Rot. Orig. 16 Edw. 3, r. 17.

^z Vide DUNFORD, vol. 1, p. 250.

^a Vide POTTERSFURY.

^b Hatton MSS. "Fin. 30 Edw. 3."

^c Esc. 5 Hen. 5, n. 39.

^d Domesd. fo. 220.

^e Esc. 25 Edw. 1, n. 51.

^f Esc. 2 Edw. 3, n. 28.

^g Hatton MSS. "Fin. III. 3 Hen. 7."

^h Vide BUCKLEY.

ⁱ Vide GARTWORTH, vol. 1, p. 507.

^j Esc. 30 Edw. 3, n. 20.

^k Rot. Pat. 16 Jan.

^l Cotton. MSS.

PAULERSPURY,

written in domesday Pirie, and in early records Peri, Pyrie, and Pery, and occasionally Wesperie in contradistinction to Eastpery or Potterspury; in later times called Pavelis Pery or Pavelis Pury from its ancient lords, and has been subsequently corrupted into Paulerspury.

Paulerspury with Plumpton and the hamlet of Heathencote contains about 2800 acres; of which about 940 acres belong to George-Henry duke of Grafton, K.G.; about 770 acres to George-William-Richard earl of Pomfret a minor; about 360 acres to George Shedden, of Bedford square, London, esq. lord of the manor; about 220 acres to Isaac Lovell, gent.; about 145 acres to John Parker, of Towcester, gent.; and about 115 acres to Francis Sheppard, gent. The Shedden estate is all old inclosure. The open fields of Paulerspury and Heathencote were inclosed by act of parliament in 59 Geo. 3 (1819).

The parish is bounded on the north by Easton Neston, Shutlanger, and Alderton; east by Yardley Gobion and Potterspury; south by Whittlebury forest; west by Whittlebury, and north-west by Towcester. The soil is principally a strong loam. There are two water mills in the parish, one formerly called Grystmills and Buttemilns. One of these now known as Cuttle mill is supplied by a brook and stands near the Chester road; the other named Twickets mill is on the Tove in the lordship of Heathencote.

MANORIAL HISTORY. PEVEREL FEE. "Pirie" was in the Saxon era one of the freeholds of *Gitta* †, and transferred with his other estates, by the Norman conqueror to William Peverel, under whom it was held by *Robert* † at the domesday survey. It contained three hides and a half and the fifth part of half a hide. The arable land was nine carucates; of which two were in demesne with seven servants; and eighteen villeins and seven bordars with a priest had the remaining seven carucates. There was a mill worth 26s. 8d. yearly; ten acres of meadow; and a wood six furlongs in length, and four furlongs two perches in width. The whole had been, and still was rated at 24 yearly^a.

MANOR. *Robert*, the domesday tenant, held also Great Houghton in this county †, and South Winfield in Derbyshire under William Peverel †, and it may fairly be inferred that he was ancestor of the Pavelics, as those places were from the remotest period concentrated in that family. The grant of two parts of the title of Houghton by Robert de Pavelliaico or Pavely to Lenton priory near Nottingham founded by William Peverel, junior, was confirmed about 1109 (10 Hen. 1)^a; and Geoffrey de Pavely son of Ilbert de Pavely gave a rentcharge of 2s. yearly in Westperie to St. James abbey in the reign of Henry II. In the hydarium of that reign there is certified to be in West Pyrie the same measurement as in domesday of the fee of Peverel †. Robert de Pavely is not named here as the mesne lord, but he is under Houghton †. In 7 Ric. (1195) William de St. Mary Church accounted for £7. 2s. of the issues of Houghton, £10 of the issues of "Peri" and £9. 2s. 4d. of the issues of Sulby for one year, belonging to the late Robert de Pavelli, and Geoffrey de Lisle accounted for 40s. for the year before, to the use or maintenance of Pavely's children †; and in the following year St. Mary Church rendered an account by Ralph Hareng of £10 for the farm of Houghton with increment, for the support of the daughters and the heir of Pavely, and £14 for the farm of Peri and £10 for Sulby^b. In 10 Ric. (1198) Geoffrey de Pavilli was charged with 200 marks (£133. 6s. 8d.) for the fine of his lands^c; in 1 Joh. (1199) Robert de Vipont rendered an account of £10 for Houghton, £17 for Peri, and £10 towards his fine; and in 3 Joh. (1201) paid the further sum of £20 and was quit^d. In the same year he was amerced £10 and a palfrey for four knight's fees: he paid into the treasury the £10 and owed the palfrey^e. By the inquisition of fees held of escheated honors in 13 Joh. (1211) he was found to hold four fees, one fee in (South) Winfield, Derbyshire, one fee in Risley in the same county, one fee in Houghton, and one fee in Perry^f. Fulk de Breat had the wardship and marriage of the heir of Geoffrey de Pavelli in 1 Hen. 3 (1217)^g; and in the Testa de Nevill about 19 Hen. 3 (1235) Robert de Pavilly answered for two fees of the honor of Peverel of Nottingham in "Westpery," Heymudcote, and Houghton^h. William de Paveli, probably brother of this Robert, by his will dated at the feast of All Saints after the death of St. Edmund archbishop of Canterbury, bequeathed his soul to God and the blessed Mary, and his body to the house of nuns at Sewardesleie and with his body a palfrey or 2 marks, and his sumpter horse with all his harness and arms, coat of mail, chapeau de ferr, or helmet, sword, spurs, and two of his best oxen. To the mother church of the parish in which he should happen to die, his next best beast after the said second beast. To the mother church iii^j. To Robert the clerk son of his brother Roger iiij marks (£2. 13s. 4d.) To Agnes daughter of his sister Beatrice v marks (£3. 6s. 8d.) To Isabella daughter of his sister Emma v marks. To Geoffrey his grandson ij marks. To the brothers mimors of Northampton ½ mark. To St. James (abbey) of Northampton vs. To St. Andrew (priory) ij^k. To the nuns of St. Mary de pratis (Delapré) of Northampton ij^l. To Woburn (abbey, co. Bedf.) iiij^m. To the poor of St. Leonard (hospital) of Northampton ijⁿ. To the poor of St. John (hospital) of the said place xij^o. To Lavendon Leonard (hospital) of Northampton ij^p. To the poor of St. Margaret of the said place xij^q. To the poor of St. Michael (co. Bucks) ij^r. To the new hospital of Newport, (co. Bucks) xij^s. To St. Margaret of the said place xij^t. To the poor of Hovele (co. Bedf.) xij^u. To the poor of Bracel (Brackley) xij^v. To the poor of Toucestria xij^w. To the poor of Stratford xij^x. To the nuns of Harewold (co. Bedf.) xij^y. To Helye as the Cook ij^z. To Dyleis(?) xij^{aa}. To Cademan

^a Eac. 3 Hen. 6, n. 12.^b Domesd. fo. 226.^c Ibid. fo. 273b.^d Mon. Ang. 1, p. 646.^e Cotton. MSS.^f Vesp. E. xxi. fo. 96.^g Ibid. fo. 90b.^h Rot. Pip. North. 7 Ric.ⁱ Ibid. 8 Ric.^j Ibid. 10 Ric.^k Ibid. 1 Joh.^l Ibid. 3 Joh.^m Cardigan MSS. H. p. 214.ⁿ Rot. Class. 1 Hen. 3, n. 23.^o Test. Nev. fo. 124.^p Vide Dutton, vol. 1, p. 138.^q Vide Newwotles, vol. 1, p. 101.

bridge (Cappenharn bridge) vs. To Hulcote bridge xij^d. To Agnes de Badesleia ij^s. To Roger the Carter xij^d. To the pittance of the convent of Sewardesleia 4 mark. To Robert Scarbat ij^s. To Ralph Terri vjd. To Emma Badesleia xij^d. To the lights round his body vj^s. vij^d. To oblations to be distributed on the day of his burial v marks (£3. 6s. 8d.). To a stone to be placed over him xx^d. To be distributed to the poor ij marks. To (Pury) xij^d. To the clerk of the said church iij^d. To the clerk of the said church iij^d. To the chaplain of Per^o of Houton iij^d. To the building of the church of Per^o iij^d. To the bridge between the house of the said William and Ludenell vs. To the brothers preachers of Stamford ii^s. To the clerks watching round his body iij^s. iij^d. To the church of Stokes (Bruerne) ij^s. To the daughters of Hamand de Wyken iij^s. To Isabella de Houton and Agnes de Noers xij^d. And to the lady Alicia de Swardesleia iij^s.^a Robert de Pavilly died in 35 Hen. 3 (1250) seized of the manors of Perie, Houghton and Sulby^r, leaving Robert his son and heir aged twenty three years^r, who the pledge and assise of bread and beer in Westpury t. In 5 Edw. 1 (1277) being infirm, Robert de Maunell proffered for him the service of one knight's fee in the expedition against Llewelyn prince of Wales^r; and in 10 Edw. 1 (1282) he rendered the same service in the Welch expedition by Philip de Paveley and John de Davyntre^s. His son *sir Laurence de Pavely* in 25 Edw. 1 (1297) was returned from the county of Northampton as holding lands and rents to the amount of £20 yearly and upwards in capite or otherwise, and as such summoned to perform military service in person with horse and arms beyond the seas^r; and in 17 Edw. 2 (1324) was summoned to attend the great council at Westminster^r.

In 1 Edw. 3 (1323) he obtained a confirmation of all his lands in Pery and Houghton in Northamptonshire, Risley in Nottinghamshire (Derbyshire) and Winfield in Derbyshire, as granted by William Peverel to his ancestor Robert de Pavely by the service of one fee^s. This confirmatory grant probably originated in a dispute respecting the tenure. Two years afterwards, in a plea between him and the crown, the jurors presented that he held Westpire and the places above enumerated of the king in capite as of the escheats of William Peverel of the honor of Nottingham by the service of one fee, viz. providing an armed knight or two armed esquires in the king's wars for forty days at his own cost; doing suit at the court of the honor of Peverel at Duxton from three weeks to three weeks; and rendering to the king for the land of Westpire by the hands of the bailiff of the said honor from ancient custom 13s. 4d. yearly called "Shyreve yeld;" that all the said lands were held by him and his ancestors for four knight's fees from time beyond memory, and that none of the services were in arrear^b. He petitioned the king in parliament the following year, reciting the feoffment from Peverel and the royal charter, and complaining that, notwithstanding his father Robert de Pavely had duly rendered the service of a knight's fee for these lands in the Welch expeditions in the 5th and 10th years of the grandfather of the present king, as the mareschall's roll would testify, yet notwithstanding he was charged £14 for scutage for those expeditions. The mareschall's roll in the exchequer and his charters being examined, it was found that the service had been done, and he was discharged accordingly^c. His son *Robert de Pavely* died in 20 Edw. 3 (1346)^d and the same year on collecting the aid for knighting the king's eldest son, Guy de Brian, who had the wardship of *Laurence* the heir, paid 40s. for one fee in Westpire and Houghton^e. *Laurence* had scarcely attained his majority when he died in 23 Edw. 3 (1349) leaving *John de Pavely* his brother and heir aged fifteen years^f; and in the following year the king committed to William Stury the custody of two parts of the manors of Westpire and Houghton—the third part being held in dower—during the minority of the heir, rendering 40 marks (£26. 13s. 4d.) yearly, and 200 marks (£133. 6s. 8d.) for his marriage^g.

The male line of Pavely terminated with this John de Pavely who was living in 15 Ric. 2 (1392)^h and whose widow Joan Pavely survived till 1 Hen. 5 (1413).

PAVELY OF PAULERSPURY AND GREAT HOUGHTON.

From public records, cartularies, and other authorities.

Arms. Ermine, on a fess Azure three crosses pattee Or.

ROBERT, mesne lord of Paulerspury and Great Houghton, temp. Will. Conq. ⚔.....

ROBERT DE PAVELLIACO OF PAVELY gave the tithes of Great Houghton to Lenton priory, co. Notts, temp. Hen. 1. ⚔.....

LIBERT DE PAVELY, of Paulerspury ⚔.....

GEOFFREY DE PAVELY, of Paulerspury ⚔.....

WILLIAM DE PAVELY, abbot of St. James, near Northampton, 1176 to 1180.

ROBERT DE PAVELY, of Paulerspury, dead 7 Ric. 1 (1198). ⚔.....

Notis. sist. & coh. of Geoffrey de Malquincy, of Roddington, co. Welford. DE PAVELY, of.....

GEOFFREY DE PAVELY, of Paulerspury, oc. 10 Ric. 1 (1196), dead 1 Hen. 3 (1217). ⚔.....

MURIEL.

ROBERT DE PAVELY, of Paulerspury, ob. 35 Hen. 3 (1250). Esc. 35 Hen. 3. ⚔..... WILLIAM DE PAVELY, will dat. Nov. 28 n. 54. (1245). Hen. 3 (1245).

SIR ROBERT DE PAVELY, of Paulerspury, set. 23 Esc. 35, Hen. 3, sold Sulby to SARAH, ob. circ. 27 Edw. 1 (1296). JOHN DE PAVELY, rector of Paulerspury 1217 & 1220.

SIR LAURENCE DE PAVELY, of Paulerspury, set. 30, Esc. 16 Edw. 1. ⚔..... PHILIP DE PAVELY, twin brother of M.P. for co. North. 1 Edw. 2, living 3 Edw. 3 (1329). JOAN, ANNE, princess of Delapre 1219. Laurence, living 16 Edw. 1 (1286).

a

^a Madox's Formulæ, p. 424. ^c Esc. 35 Hen. 3, n. 50. ^e Rot. Pip. North. 35 Hen. 3. ^g Rot. Hand. 3 Edw. 1. ⁱ Parl. Writs, vol. 1, p. 203. ^d Ibid. p. 231. ^f Cardigan MSS. M. p. 74. ^h Parl. Writs, vol. 2, p. 634. ^j Rot. Pat. 1 Edw. 3, p. 2, m. 28. ^k Isham MSS. No. 37, "Placi. Coron. 3 Edw. 3." ^l Rot. Parl. vol. 2, p. 43. ^m Esc. 20 Edw. 3, n. 50. ⁿ Isham MSS. No. 38, "Comp. Walt. Parles 20 Edw. 3." ^o Esc. 23 Edw. 3, n. 71. ^p Rot. Orig. 24 Edw. 3, r. 4. ^q Rot. Parl. vol. 3, p. 298. ^r Esc. 1 Hen. 5, n. 55.

a					
Sir ROBERT DE PAVELY, of Paulerspury, Sheriff of co. North. 18 & 19 Edw. 3, ob. 14 Nov. 30. Esc. 3 (1346), Esc. 20 Edw. 3, n. 50.	LAURENCE DE PAVELY.	THOMAS DE PAVELY.	NICHOLAS DE PAVELY.	ROGER DE PAVELY.	GROUPEY DE PAVELY, rector of Paulerspury 1349.
Sir LAURENCE DE PAVELY, of Paulerspury, et. 15, Esc. 20 Edw. 3, ob. s. 17 July, 21 Edw. 3 (1349), Esc. 22 Edw. 3, n. 71.	Sir JOHN DE PAVELY, of Paulerspury, et. 15, Esc. 22 Edw. 3, sheriff of co. North. 2, 10, & 13 Ric. 2, 14 Ric. 2 (1391).	JOAN, d. of . . . ob. 1 Hen. 5, (1410), Esc. 1 Hen. 5, n. 55.	ROBERT DE PAVELY.	NICHOLAS DE PAVELY.	THOMAS DE PAVELY.
ISABEL, d. & coh. Sir JOHN DE ST. JOHN, of Paulerspury, ob. 3 Hen. 6 (1424), Esc. 3 Hen. 6, n. 12.					
ST. JOHN BARON ST. JOHN, vide WOODFORD.					

Isabel daughter and coheir of sir John Pavely married sir John St. John, ancestor of baron St. John*, and viscount Bolingbroke, to whom a fine was levied of the manor of Westpyrie in 17 Ric. 2 (1393)^b and who died in 3 Hen. 6 (1424) leaving *Oliver St. John* his son and heir¹. His lineal descendant *sir John St. John* died 30 Mar. 16 Hen. 8 (1525) seised of the manor and advowson of West Perye alias Paulesperye, and was succeeded by his son and heir *John St. John*, esq. aged thirty years^m, who in 32 Hen. 8 (1540-1) being then sir John St. John, conveyed the manor, park, and advowson of Paules Pury alias West Pury, to

The King in exchange for other landsⁿ. In 5 Edw. 6 (1551) the king, reciting that in the first year of his reign he had granted to *Nicholas Throckmorton*, esq. for having first announced the victory over the Scotch (at Musselburgh) an annuity of £100 during pleasure, which the said Nicholas, now knighted, had surrendered, grants to him in fee in recompence thereof and in consideration of his laudable and acceptable services, the manors, park, and advowson of Paulesperye alias Paulerspury, the manors and advowsons of Cosgrave alias Covesgrave^o and Tythefield alias Tyghfelde (Tiffeld) and the manor of Sylveston alias Syllestone^t, all parcel of the honor of Grafton the site of Luffield priory^u with the demesne lands in various places in the counties of Northampton and Buckingham, and Lillingston in Oxfordshire, together with manors, advowsons, and lands in the counties of Warwick, Southampton and Norfolk^v.

Sir Nicholas Throckmorton or Throgmorton was sewer to king Henry VIII. and a commander at Boulogne. He led one division of the army at the battle of Musselburgh near Edinburgh in 1547 (1 Edw. 6) and bore the news of the victory to the king; for which, in addition to the reward already noticed, he was knighted. He continued in favour with that amiable young monarch, but was suspected by queen Mary of being an accomplice in Wyatt's insurrection, and brought to trial. The unsatisfactory nature of the evidence and the eloquence of his defence procured him an acquittal. The queen, however, was so enraged at her disappointment, that instead of releasing him, as the law required, she re-committed him to the Tower, and the jury being summoned before the council were afterwards fined, some of them £1000 and others £2000 each. On the accession of queen Elizabeth he was appointed chief butler of England and chamberlain of the exchequer, and ambassador to Francis II. king of France and Mary queen of Scots his consort, to expostulate with them for assuming the arms of England in their quarters. He was sent on a second embassy into France, and twice into Scotland. He prevailed on the unfortunate Mary queen of Scots when imprisoned by her subjects to sign a renunciation of her regal power in favour of her son, but afterwards assured both her and Elizabeth that the act was invalid, as she was impelled by fear. He died 12 Feb. 1570 (13 Eliz.) and Fuller adds "at supper eating of sallad, not without suspicion of poison, the rather because hapning in the house of one no mean artist in that faculty, R. Earl of Leicester." Sir Nicholas was a valiant soldier and an able statesman. He left his own life in verse, written as is supposed during his imprisonment, and which was in the library at Weston [Underwood in Buckinghamshire] in 1741^f, but is not now known to be in possession of the family. There are two engraved portraits of him, a h. sh. by Vertue, and 4to. by Facius.

Sir Arthur Throckmorton, son and heir of sir Nicholas, died in 1626 (2 Car.) leaving four daughters and coheirresses, all of whom he survived, except the eldest,

Mary, wife of Thomas lord Wotton, on whom he had settled Paulerspury on her marriage in 6 Jac. (1608)^g, and who 'in the eleventh year of Charles I.' laid claim to common of pasture in the forest of *Whittlewood*, as of right belonging to the said manor.^h Lord and lady Wotton left also four daughters and coheirresses; but in 4 Car. (1628) they suffered a recovery of the manor of Paulerspury and Burnham manor in Sylveston to the use of themselves for life, remainder in tail male, remainder to their fourth daughter

Anne "and such husband as shee should marryⁱ," by virtue of which settlement she carried it in marriage to *Edward Hales*, esq. grandson and heir apparent of sir Edward Hales, 1st bart. of Woodchurch, Kent. His grandfather, and wife's relations were parliamentarians; he was a devoted royalist, and seriously injured his fortune by an abortive endeavor to rescue the king from his imprisonment in the Isle of Wight. For this purpose he, in conjunction with Mr. L'Estrange, organised a rising of the loyalists in Kent, and raised on his own security near £200,000 to defray the expense. A considerable muster of horse and foot took place at Maidstone, and Mr. Hales was unanimously elected their general; but the earl of Norwich being sent to supersede him in the command, and being threatened by his grandfather on the one side and by his wife's mother on the other, he embarked for Holland with his wife, intending to return after placing her out of the reach of her mother. In the meantime, the Kentish enterprise completely failed, and being unable to meet the pecuniary engagements he had entered into, he was compelled to end his days in exile. He succeeded to the baronetcy in 1654 and is said to have died soon after the restoration; but he resigned Paulerspury in 1668 to his son *Edward Hales*, esq.^j who on the death of his father about 1675 became the third baronet. He was in high estimation with king James II. under whom he had a regiment of foot, was one of the privy council, a lord of the admiralty, deputy governor of the Cinque ports, and lieutenant-governor of the

¹ Collins's Peerage (1719), vol. 6, p. 66.

^b Hutton MSS. "Fin. 17 Ric. 2."

^c Esc. 3 Hen. 6, n. 12.

^d Esc. 17 Hen. 8, n. 161.

^e Augm. Off. Box A. 20.

^f Rot. Pat. 7 Dec. 5 Edw. 6, p. 3.

^g Wotton's Baronetage (1741), vol. 2, p. 338.

^h Abstract of title.

ⁱ Br. 1, p. 312, "Placid. Forest. 11 Car. 1."

^j Vide p. 130.

^k Vide p. 87, 88.

^l Vide p. 24.

3 F

THROCKMORTON OF PAULERSPURY, AND COHEIRS.

Sir GEORGE THOCKMORTON, of Conington, Cambs. *Arms.* Or, a lion passant guardant, on a chief three fleurs de lis of the First. *Crest.* Out of a ducal coronet, a lion passant guardant, armed.

[illegible]

Sir Benjamin Bathurst, the purchaser of this manor, was the youngest son of George Bathurst, esq. of Hothorp. In the reign of king Charles II. he was elected governor of the royal African company and was governor of the East India company in 1688 and 1689. His eldest son *Allen Bathurst* was created BARON BATHURST 31 Dec. 1711, being one of the twelve memorable peers who were introduced the same day into the house of lords to secure a ministerial majority. He was an able debater, a strenuous opponent of the Walpole administration and a warm vindicator of Ormond, Bolingbroke and Atterbury; but still more celebrated as the friend and associate of genius, round whose hospitable board, Pope, Swift, Addison, Prior, Gay, and all the literati of the age assembled to enjoy "the feast of reason and the flow of soul." In 1772 he was advanced to the dignity of EARL BATHURST, sixty-one years after his first elevation to the peerage! and died in 1775 at the patriarchal age of ninety-one years. His son *Henry* second earl Bathurst, applying himself to the study of the law, became one of the justices of the common pleas in 1754, and in 1771 during the life-time of his father was raised to the peerage as BARON ASPLEY and constituted lord high chancellor of Great Britain. He remained at the head of the legal profession till 1778, when he resigned the seals from ill health, and the following year was appointed president of the council. His son *Henry* third earl Bathurst held various official appointments in different administrations from 1783 to 1830, and died 26 July 1834.

BATHURST EARL BATHURST.

From the peerages, parish register of Paulspury*, and other authorities.

Arms. Sable, two bars Ermine, in chief three crosses pale. *Crest.* On a wreath a dexter arm embowed habited in mail, holding in the hand, all Proper, a spiked club Or. *Supporters.* Two stags Argent, each gorged with a bar gemell Ermine. *Motto.* TIES TA FOY.

LAUNCELOT BATHURST, of Franks in Horton Kirby, co. Kent, esq. (descended from Laurence BAT-JURST, d. of 2 ^d Sir EDWARD BATHURST, of London, ob. 27 Sept. 1594 (36 Eliz.) at 65, bar. at St. Mary Richard Har- KYTAVON, of d'olph of London, Ob. 1594, co. Salop.		1. RANDOLPH CATHURST, d. of Robert Argall, of Kent Sutton, co. East, esq. Bathurst, of Franks, co. Kent.		2. LANCELOT BATHURST, d. of Robert Argall, of Kent Sutton, co. East, esq. Bathurst, of Franks, co. Kent.		3. EDWARD BATHURST, d. of Robert Argall, of Kent Sutton, co. East, esq. Bathurst, of Franks, co. Kent.		1. W. ELLIOT, d. of Robert Argall, of Kent Sutton, co. East, esq. Bathurst, of Franks, co. Kent.		4. GEORGE BATHURST, d. of Robert Argall, of Kent Sutton, co. East, esq. Bathurst, of Franks, co. Kent.		ELIZABETH 1. H. JOHN BROWN, d. of 2 ^d Sir EDWARD BATHURST, of London, Ob. 1594, co. Salop.		MARY W. of EDWARD BATHURST, of London, Ob. 1594, co. Salop.		RICHARD W. of EDWARD BATHURST, of London, Ob. 1594, co. Salop.	
1. GEORGE BATHURST, ob. s. p. 1644.		2. JOHN BATHURST, ob. s. p. 1644.		3. JOHN BATHURST, ob. s. p. 1644.		4. JOHN BATHURST, ob. s. p. 1644.		5. JOHN BATHURST, ob. s. p. 1644.		6. JOHN BATHURST, ob. s. p. 1644.		7. JOHN BATHURST, ob. s. p. 1644.		8. JOHN BATHURST, ob. s. p. 1644.		9. JOHN BATHURST, ob. s. p. 1644.	
1. ALLEN BATHURST, b. at Westminster 1305 to 1710, Baron BATHURST of Bathurst, co. Bedf. Pat. 31 Dec. 10, deat (1711), treasurer of household to king George III. EARL BATHURST of Bathurst, co. Bedf. Pat. 12 Aug. 12 Geo. 3 (1772), ob. at Cirencester, co. Glouce. 16 Sept. bur. there 21 Sept. 1775, et. 51.		2. HENRY 3d EARL BATHURST, b. 22 May 1762, M.P. for Cirencester 1783 to 1794, lord of the admiralty 1783, lord of the treasury 1789 to 1791, teller of the exchequer 1790, master of the mint 1804, pres. of board of trade 1807, foreign sec. of state 1809 to Dec. 1809, colonial sec. of state 1812 to 1826, pres. of the council 1826 to 1830, K.G. 1817, D.C.L. F.R.S. & A.S. Soc. ob. in London 26 July bar. 1830, Cirencester 5 Aug. 1834, et. 72.		3. GEORGE BATHURST, b. 22 May 1762, M.P. for Cirencester 1783 to 1794, lord of the admiralty 1783, lord of the treasury 1789 to 1791, teller of the exchequer 1790, master of the mint 1804, pres. of board of trade 1807, foreign sec. of state 1809 to Dec. 1809, colonial sec. of state 1812 to 1826, pres. of the council 1826 to 1830, K.G. 1817, D.C.L. F.R.S. & A.S. Soc. ob. in London 26 July bar. 1830, Cirencester 5 Aug. 1834, et. 72.		4. GEORGE BATHURST, b. 22 May 1762, M.P. for Cirencester 1783 to 1794, lord of the admiralty 1783, lord of the treasury 1789 to 1791, teller of the exchequer 1790, master of the mint 1804, pres. of board of trade 1807, foreign sec. of state 1809 to Dec. 1809, colonial sec. of state 1812 to 1826, pres. of the council 1826 to 1830, K.G. 1817, D.C.L. F.R.S. & A.S. Soc. ob. in London 26 July bar. 1830, Cirencester 5 Aug. 1834, et. 72.		5. GEORGE BATHURST, b. 22 May 1762, M.P. for Cirencester 1783 to 1794, lord of the admiralty 1783, lord of the treasury 1789 to 1791, teller of the exchequer 1790, master of the mint 1804, pres. of board of trade 1807, foreign sec. of state 1809 to Dec. 1809, colonial sec. of state 1812 to 1826, pres. of the council 1826 to 1830, K.G. 1817, D.C.L. F.R.S. & A.S. Soc. ob. in London 26 July bar. 1830, Cirencester 5 Aug. 1834, et. 72.		6. GEORGE BATHURST, b. 22 May 1762, M.P. for Cirencester 1783 to 1794, lord of the admiralty 1783, lord of the treasury 1789 to 1791, teller of the exchequer 1790, master of the mint 1804, pres. of board of trade 1807, foreign sec. of state 1809 to Dec. 1809, colonial sec. of state 1812 to 1826, pres. of the council 1826 to 1830, K.G. 1817, D.C.L. F.R.S. & A.S. Soc. ob. in London 26 July bar. 1830, Cirencester 5 Aug. 1834, et. 72.		7. GEORGE BATHURST, b. 22 May 1762, M.P. for Cirencester 1783 to 1794, lord of the admiralty 1783, lord of the treasury 1789 to 1791, teller of the exchequer 1790, master of the mint 1804, pres. of board of trade 1807, foreign sec. of state 1809 to Dec. 1809, colonial sec. of state 1812 to 1826, pres. of the council 1826 to 1830, K.G. 1817, D.C.L. F.R.S. & A.S. Soc. ob. in London 26 July bar. 1830, Cirencester 5 Aug. 1834, et. 72.		8. GEORGE BATHURST, b. 22 May 1762, M.P. for Cirencester 1783 to 1794, lord of the admiralty 1783, lord of the treasury 1789 to 1791, teller of the exchequer 1790, master of the mint 1804, pres. of board of trade 1807, foreign sec. of state 1809 to Dec. 1809, colonial sec. of state 1812 to 1826, pres. of the council 1826 to 1830, K.G. 1817, D.C.L. F.R.S. & A.S. Soc. ob. in London 26 July bar. 1830, Cirencester 5 Aug. 1834, et. 72.		9. GEORGE BATHURST, b. 22 May 1762, M.P. for Cirencester 1783 to 1794, lord of the admiralty 1783, lord of the treasury 1789 to 1791, teller of the exchequer 1790, master of the mint 1804, pres. of board of trade 1807, foreign sec. of state 1809 to Dec. 1809, colonial sec. of state 1812 to 1826, pres. of the council 1826 to 1830, K.G. 1817, D.C.L. F.R.S. & A.S. Soc. ob. in London 26 July bar. 1830, Cirencester 5 Aug. 1834, et. 72.	

Henry third earl Bathurst sold Paulspury in 1805 to Robert Shelden, esq. who died in 1826, and was succeeded by his son George Shelden, esq. the present lord of the manor (1835).

MONKESBARNE MANOR. Prior William de Horewood and the monks of Luffield in 25 Edw. 3 (1351) demised their manor of Pery called Monkesbarne to Adam de Cortenhale and Joan his wife for life*; in 5 Edw. 3 (1376) the prior and convent demised a moiety of it to John Hancock of Wodeburet for life, saving 8s. 8d. for a heriot at their death, and suit to their court at Silveston; and in 2 Hen. 6 (1423-4) prior John and the convent demised all their manor of "Monkesbarne juxta Westprie" with all the pertinencies except the wood called Monkeswode to sir John Man for fifty years, rendering 30s. yearly*. This is the last distinct notice of Monksbarne, but Monkswood passed under the grant to sir Nicholas Throckmorton as parcel of the demesne land of Luffield priory.

St. James Abbey near Northampton had 2s. yearly rent out of a messuage in Westprie, of the gift of Geoffrey de Pavell son of Albert de Pavell*.

PAULSPURY was annexed to the honor of Grafton on its erection 33 Hen. 8 (1541). "Paulspury Church End" is a member of the sectional court held at Greens Norton; and Paulspury and Plumpton End of the one held at More End. On the inclosure in 59 Geo. 3 (1819) the duke of Grafton claimed to be entitled to a manor within

* Luffield cartulary, fo. 49.

* Ibid. fo. 49b.

* Ibid. fo. 50b.

* Br. MSS. E. p. 410.

the parish and hamlet of Paulerspury and Heathencote, as part of the honor of Grafton, and the commissioners allotted to him a plot "not exceeding one sixteenth part of the waste grounds" in lieu of his right and interest in the soil of the commons and waste grounds.

THE PARK, now disparted, stretched along the side of Whittlebury forest from Wakefield lawn to Shelbrook lawn. In 38 Edw. 3 (1363) it was found by inquisition ad d. q. that it would not be to the damage of the king if he granted licence to John de Pavely to convert his woods called Ottewood and Farnsted containing 175 acres into a park⁷; and in 10 Hen. 4 (1409) sir John St. John had licence to enlarge his two parks called the old park and the new park in Westpury alias Paulerspury by adding a field called Framsted containing 100 acres, and a certain wood adjoining the said field, and the old park called Esthull and outwoods containing 100 acres, and to enclose the whole in one park⁸. At the corner of this park at a place called the *Benches* in *Whittlewood-forest* was formerly held the *Swaninote* Court for the said forest, and afterwards generally adjoined to *Whittlebury*⁹.

THE MANOR HOUSE, says Bridges, "which is a very good one, stands at some distance within a park, and belongs to Lord Bathurst, who hath here both Court Leet and Baron. In the keeper's lodge are arched windows, and door-cases, and other marks of antiquity¹⁰." The house, after having been deserted by the family many years, was taken down towards the close of the last century. It did not stand within the park, but contiguous to the west side of the church yard. Part of the out offices are used as a barn.

THE VILLAGE divided into Church End and Pury End, with an interval of about a quarter of a mile between, extends a mile in length, and is skirted on the north by the Chester road about three miles from Towcester. Bridges describes it as a "village consisting of several inshipp, and one hundred and fifty families, whereof about fifty are freeholders¹¹." By the census of 1801, it contained 189 houses and 859 inhabitants; by that of 1811, 195 houses and 875 inhabitants; by that of 1821, 216 houses and 1069 inhabitants; and by that of 1831, 225 houses and 1092 inhabitants. The annual quota of land tax for this parish is £197. 10s. at 4s. in the £. The estimated value of real property as assessed to the property tax of 10 per cent. for the year ending April 1815 amounted to £3,577. The poor rates for the year ending Easter 1832 raised £1,298, at 11s. in the £. The female hands are principally employed in lace-making. The wake follows St. James.

THE ADVOWSON was immemorially appendant to the manor. It was first severed from it by lord Bathurst, of whom it was purchased by the rev. Henry Layng the incumbent, who sold it to his successor the rev. Nicholas Jones, by whom it was alienated to the warden and scholars of St. Mary's college of Winchester, commonly called New college, Oxford.

The Rectory is in the deanry of Preston. In the taxations of 1254 (38 Hen. 3)¹² and of 1291 (20 Edw. 1)¹³ it was rated at 24 marks (£18) *per ann.*; and in the ecclesiastical survey of 1535 (26 Hen. 8) at £24. 14s. 7d. *per ann.* deducting 10s. 7d. for synodals and procurations to the archdeacon of Northampton¹⁴. The parliamentary commissioners in 1655 certified it to be a parsonage presentative worth about £210 *per ann.* but who was the true patron thereof was not justly known. Mr. Vincent Cupper the incumbent received the profits and supplied the cure by himself and Mr. Robert Blakeley his curate, to whom he allowed £28 yearly¹⁵. The rectory now consists of 68a. 0r. 14p. of land allotted by the commissioners of inclosure in lieu of the glebe; and the tithes of the whole parish, which were expressly excepted from the operation of the inclosure act. The rectory house is east of the church yard. It has been handsomely rebuilt by the present incumbent.

RECTORS. *Ralph*, son of *Roger de Northampton*, by *Robert de Pavely*, 1228.

Eustace de Gerradennum, subdeacon, 1230.

Philp de Eye.

John de Pavely, by sir Robert de Pavely, 18 Apr. 1277.

John de Pavely, clerk, 22 Sept. 1291.

Ralph Lodbrok, by sir Laurence de Pavely, 11 Mar. 1298.

Henry Warner de Upton, priest, by sir Robert de Pavely, 21 Dec. 1344.

Geoffrey de Pavely, priest, 13 June 1345.

Robert de Wilford, priest, by the king by wardship of the son and heir of sir Robert de Pavely, 17 July 1349.

Robert de Wolberton, priest, 30 Mar. 1350.

Ralph de Croyland, priest, by sir John de Pavely, 31 May 1361.

Simon Olneye, priest, 16 July 1364. He was chantry priest to the hermitage of Grafton, 1349.

William, 1374.

John Tibbany.

John Eyberhall, priest, by Joan Pavely, lady of West Pury, 7 Jan. 1413.

John Heyberhall, or *Eboral*, A.M. priest, by Thomas Wake and others, feoffees in the manor of Pavely's-pyrie, 21 Sept. 1443.

Sir Thomas Couper, priest, by Margaret duchess of Somerset, &c. 7 Dec. 1470. He has been already noticed under Overston.

Mast. William Morgan, LL.D. by John St. John, esq. 8 Mar. 1487.

Sir Henry Milner, chaplain, by sir John St. John, 23 Nov. 1509.

Sir Roger Bull, or *Brille*¹⁶, 27 Jan. 1512. He was also vicar of Stokeland in Dorsetshire.

William Langley was instituted 15 Feb. 1558, on the presentation of John (Williams) lord Thame by grant from the executors of sir John St. John.

John Hottotfe was inst. 10 Aug. 1576, on the presentation of the queen, probably by lapse. He was buried here 6 Jan. 1592¹⁷, and

⁷ Esc. 38 Edw. 3, p. 2, n. 13.

⁸ Br. 1, p. 311.

⁹ Augm. Off.

¹⁰ Rot. Char. 10, 11, 12 Hen. 4, n. 8 & Hatton MSS.

¹¹ Cotton MSS. Nero D. x. fo. 180.

¹² Par. Reg.

¹³ Tax. Eccl. p. 36.

¹⁴ Br. 1, p. 311.

¹⁵ Augm. Off.

¹⁶ Cotton MSS. Nero D. x. fo. 180.

¹⁷ Lambeth MSS. vol. 20.

John Whalley occurs 1601. He was also rector of Cosgrave. On his resignation

William Pilkington, already noticed under Dodford, was presented by sir Arthur Throckmorton, and inst. 17 May 1602. His resignation introduced

Gerontium James, A.M. vicar of Pateshull, who was inst. 26 Aug. 1625, on the presentation of the same patron. Bridges states that "upon the death of Mr. Pilkington, about 1624 the Lord of the Manor took the tythes into his own hands, made the living as a donative, and so held it till he was obliged by law to restore the tythes. During this interval

James Cory served this living as curate from 1624 to 1630, and *Robert Marriott* was presented to it as curate in 1630.¹ This statement must have been founded on some misconception, as appears not only by the institution of James in 1625, but of

Peter Fawtrard, A.M. 1 May 1630, on the presentation of the king *p. h. v.* Some illegal proceedings, however, took place about this time in reference to this benefice, for

Ezekiel Johnson was inst. 19 Dec. 1631, on the presentation of the king, to whom it had lapsed by simony. Johnson is said to have been ejected by the parliamentary committee²; but this is an evident mistake, and should be applied to his successor

William Beale, D.D. who was inst. 31 Oct. 1637, on the presentation of the king *p. h. v.* On the breaking out of the civil war, he was deprived of the mastership of St. John's college, Cambridge, and, according to Walker, of the deanry of Ely, but he was only nominated and never had possession of that dignity. Having been active in collecting and conveying the university plate to the king, he was imprisoned by the parliamentarians, and after a confinement of three years was released by exchange. He then joined the king at Oxford, became chaplain to the court, and subsequently went to Madrid, where he died in 1651. He was succeeded here by

Vincent Crupper, who is described by Walker as "an old fellow, one C—, who 'tis certain had followed the law sometime in the quality of an attorney, though his friends affirmed him to be a master of arts." He was ejected under the act of uniformity in 1662, and afterwards lived with his son, whom he had brought up to the ministry, and who conformed. On his non-subscription

John Cole, D.D. was presented by sir Edward Hales, bart. and inst. 16 Feb. 1662, and re-inst. 28 Aug. 1663.

William Stone, LL.B. was inst. 25 Mar. 1671, on the presentation of Edward Hales, esq. on the death of the last incumbent. He resigned, and his successor

John Tomlinson was presented by Benjamin Bathurst, gent. and inst. 8 Nov. 1675. He was buried here 1 Apr. 1687³, and

Joseph Spinall, of Queen's coll. Oxf. A.M. was inst. 9 Aug. following, on the presentation of the same patron. He was buried here 12 July 1726⁴, and

Henry Layng, of Baliol coll. Oxf. A.M. was presented by Allen lord Bathurst, and inst. 11 Aug. following. In 1743 he was collated to a prebend in Lincoln cathedral. He projected a translation of Tasso; and translated part of Homer for Pope. He published a poetical translation from the Italian of J. Baptist Gerri, entitled "Circe. Dialogues between Ulysses and his men after their transformation." 1746. A sermon on 1 Pet. iv. 8, preached at the annual meeting of the governors of the Northampton Infirmary. 1746. 8vo. Miscellanies in prose and verse. 4to. 1748. On his cession

Nicholas Jones, A.M. was presented by John Pierce, esq. and inst. 15 Aug. 1748. He was buried here 19 Jan. 1760⁵, and

Philip Alston, A.M. was inst. 19 May following, on the presentation of the warden and scholars of St. Mary's college of Winchester, called New college, Oxford. He died within the year, and

Edmond Arnold, LL.B. was inst. 15 Jan. 1761. He published, National humiliation, the best atonement for national sins; a fast sermon on 1 Kings, viij. 44, 45. 1740. 4to. The folly and danger of a revolution in religion and government; a sermon on Prov. xxiv. 21. 1745. 8vo. He was buried here 29 Apr. 1767⁶, and

Henry Blackstone, A.M. was inst. 1 Sept. following; who was scarcely in possession when he resigned.

John Goodwin, LL.B. being inst. 31 Oct. following; on whose decease

William Master, LL.B. was inst. 26 July 1775. He was buried here 13 Sept. 1817, aged 77; and

Walter John Kerich, A.M. prebendary of Salisbury, was inst. 5 Mar. 1818.

THE COMMUNION PLATE consists of a small chalice with cover, large chalice, and two patens, the gift of sir Edward Hales, bart. and a flagon presented by sir Benjamin Bathurst.

THE REGISTERS commence in 1557.

THE CHURCH, dedicated to St. James, is pleasantly and conveniently situated between the two divisions of the village, and consists of a tower with five bells, nave, north aisle, and chapel; south aisle and porch, and chancel. "Round the first bell is inscribed in Gothic characters, SANCTA MARIA ORA PRO NOBIS; and round the tenor VOX DOCEINI EPISCOPI VOX EXULTATIONIS. These bells, with the other three, are said to have been brought from the priory of *Luffield* in *Buckinghamshire*, upon the dissolution of that monastery⁷. The north chapel is of the early English style, and has two windows of two lancet arches of equal height connected by long circular shafts with capitals; and a double dripstone. The rest of the building is of a much later period. The nave is lighted on each side by three quatrefoil windows within a circle; and the windows of the aisles have plain dripstones, and the mullions simply cross over each other in the head of the arch. The tower is 15 ft. 5 in. long by 12 ft. wide; the nave and aisles 67 ft. 8 in. long, the north aisle 12 ft. 11 in. the nave 23 ft. 8 in. and the south aisle 11 ft. 2 in. wide; the north chapel 28 ft. 5 in. long, by 13 ft. 10 in. wide; and the chancel 46 ft. 10 in. by 18 ft. 4 in. The interior is partly pewed and partly retains the old horizontal benches, and there is a west gallery across the nave. The nave is paved with stone, and the aisles with brick. The font is late Norman or early English. It is circular, gradually expanding to the top, and ornamented with rude foliage within semicircular beaded festoons, and a small hatched moulding round the rim. The

¹ Br. i. p. 312.

² Ibid. Reg. Paroch.

³ Walker's Sufferings of the Clergy.

⁴ Par. reg.

⁵ Br. i. p. 312.

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nave is divided from each aisle by five pointed arches on octangular pillars with capitals of plain mouldings. The entrance into the chancel is through a carved wooden screen in compartments, and under a lofty arch which rises above the roof of the chancel and is glazed in the apex. In the south wall are three stalls rising eastward under trefoil headed arches with crocketed pediments and finials, divided by triangular-headed buttresses with rich purled pinnacles, and surmounted by an entablature; the architrave elaborately enriched with grotesque animals and foliage, and decorated with heraldic stained glass. The upper panes have been disarranged, and are confused and unsatisfactory; a fess between 6 annulets *G. Lucas*; inscribed at bottom "Sir Arthur Throckmorton, 2 & 3. *Carew*; impaling, *Ar. quarterly Throckmorton and Carew*, inscribed "..... & Mary Throckmorton." II. *Wolton*, impaling quarterly *Throckmorton* and *Carew*, inscribed "..... & Mary Throckmorton." III. *Throckmorton* with thirty quarterings, helmet, and crest. 1. *Throckmorton*. 2. O. a fess embattled *S. Abberbury*. 3. Ar. on a fess embattled between six cross-crosslets fitchy *G. 3 Besants, Olney*. 4. Az. a fess between six cross-crosslets *Ar. Olney*. 5. S. a chevron between three crescents O. *De la Spine or Spiney*. 6. as 3. 7. G. three birdbolts erect, two and one, *Ar. Bozon*. 8. G. a fess between six guttes d'Or, *Besford or Wike*. 9. S. a chevron between three pikes hauriant *Ar. Olney of Tachbrook, co. Warwick*. 10. O. three lions passant in pale *S. Carew*. 11. Ar. three adders entwined *V. Odore or Odron*. 12. G. a dexter hand *Pp. habited in a maunch Erm. holding a fleur de lis O. Mohun*. 13. per pale *Erm. & G. a saltire Counterchanged, Fitzatevens*. 14. Quarterly *S. & Ar. Hoo*. 15. G. two bendlets wavy O..... 16. Ar. three chevronels *S. Archdeacon or Archdekne*. 17. Ar. three bendlets *S. Hacomb*. 18. Az. a bend O. a label of three points *Ar. Courtenay*. 19. G. four fusils in fess *Erm.*..... 20. O. three Torteauxes in chief, a label of three points *Az. Courtenay*. 21. G. three arches with pedestals and capitals *Ar. Archea*. 22. Ar. a fess between three boars passant *S.* 23. Az. a fess between six cross-crosslets O. *St. Omer*. 24. Az. three sinister hands coupé, two and one, *Ar. Malmaines*. 25. Ar. on a chief *S. three crosses pattée fitchy of the Field.*..... 26. Az. a fret *Ar. a chief G. St. Leger*. 27. O. a lion rampant double-queued *S. Wells*. 28. Az. a fess dancette between six cross-crosslets O. *Engaine?* 29. Barry of six *Erm. & G. three crescents S. Waterton*. 30. Ar. three piles wavy issuing from chief *V. within a border Az. Besanty, Barton*. IV. quarterly: 1 & 4, O. on a fess *G. 3 fleurs de lis of the Field, Lennard byron Dacre*. 2 & 3, Az. three lions rampant O. *Fynes or Fiennes baron Dacre*, impaling, quarterly *Throckmorton and Carew*, inscribed, "..... Dacre and Elizabeth Throckmorton." V. in lozenge, quarterly *Throckmorton and Carew*, inscribed "Katherine Throckmorton." The north chapel is divided from the chancel by two open arches on octangular pillars with plain mouldings. At the east end of the south wall is a piscina.

MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS.

NAVE. Slabs for

1. Mr. John Marriott, ob. 25 Jan. 1715, æt. 71.
Mrs. Elizabeth M. his second wife, ob. Feb. 1719.
2. Margaret Marriott, w. of John M. ob. 4 Feb. 1673, æt. 18.
3. Edward March, ob. 17 July 1606.
4. Thomas Marcy, 1602.

There are also two slabs despoiled of their brasses.

NORTH AISLE.

5. Mr. Joseph Lem, ob. 8 July 1754, æt. 54.
Mrs. Frances L. his widow, ob. 1 Mar. 1778, æt. 78.

CHANCEL. I. On a tablet of white marble against the north wall:

Prope requiescit
JOSEPHUS SPINALL, A.M.
Qui
Huic Ecclesie per Annos ferè Quadraginta
Curà verè Pastoralis
Incubuit;
Urbanitate Omnes demeruit,
Fortunâ, Corpore, Animo dejectos
Munere, Arte, Consilio
Erexit,
Eòq' magis defensus
Mortuus,
Quò magis ne Alii deflerent
Curavit
Vivus,
Obiit Anno { Ætatis 61.
 { X'ti 1725.
Juxta jacet Elizabetha predicti JOSEPHI UXOR
Dignissima; quam hujus Parochie Pauperibus 100*£*.
legavit, et Omnibus Sui Desiderium Reliquit.
Obiit 23 Die Novembris Anno Dom. 1728, Ætat. 60.
6. Henry Carter, gent. bur. 23 Feb. 1622.
7. Susanna Carter, wife of Henry C. gent. bur. 20 July 1685.
8. Laurence Carter, gent. ob. 18 July 1669.

9. Elinora Carter, wid. of Laurence C. gent. ob. 14 May 1679.
10. Catherine Carter, d. of Henry C. gent. bur. 26 Apr. 1686.
11. Elinore Carter, d. of Henry C. gent. bur. 16 Sept. 1685.
12. Eliz. Carter, d. of Henry C. gent. bur. 23 July 1685.
13. Laar. Carter, s. of Henry C. gent. bur. 6 Feb. 1680.
14. John Carter, s. of Henry C. gent. bur. 30 Jan. 1679.
15. Susanna Carter, d. of Henry C. gent. bur. 21 Oct. 1677.
16. On a brass plate, under a small brass figure of an ecclesiastic holding the sacramental cup:

Pray for the soule of Sr Henry Milnar, late pargon
of this cherche, on hose soule I'h'u have my.

17. Mr. Thomas Brown who married Barbara
d. of Mr. John Thurland, by whom he had
Elizabeth & John. He died 12 Feb. 1718, æt. 47.
18. John Thurland, gent. ob. 23 Feb. 1707, æt. 83.
Elizabeth T. his wife, only d. of Humphry
Nichol of Abthorp, ob. 18 Nov. 1709, æt. 61.
19. Mr. Thomas Nicoll, citizen of London, ob.
6 Dec. 1726, æt. 79.

Within the altar rails:

HERE LYETH THE BODY
OF JOHN TOMLINSON
LATE RECTOR OF THIS PLACE
WHO DIED THE 29th OF
MARCH 1687.

21. The Rev^d
EDMUND ARNOLD
Rector of this Parish
Died 19 April 1767
Æt. 60.
22. Mrs. Anne Newman wid. of Mr. Robert N. of
Towcester ob. 10 Jan. 1719, æt. 48.

THIRD CHAPEL. II. Under the eastern arch is an uninscribed altar tomb of freestone, having on each side five blank shields, within arched compartments, having

a trefoil in each spandril. On this tomb are now placed two wooden effigies of the fourteenth century, which I suspect were originally under the low monumental arch in the north wall, which has been removed within my remembrance. That they are commemorative of the Pavell family does not admit of doubt, though there is no clue for the appropriation of them to the specific individuals. The knight has a fluted conical basinet with a studded rim, attaching it to the cerveliece; and his tunic is visible below his knees. His left arm bears a mutilated shield, and his hand grasps a broken scabbard from which his right hand is withdrawing the sword. His head rests on a lozenge cushion, and his feet on a lion. The lady has a flowing headdress confined round the forehead by a plain fillet; her vest is close to the neck, and from beneath it a wimple rises over her chin. Her head reposed on a cushion supported by two angels, one of which has disappeared; and a dog is at her feet.

III. At the west end is a large altar tomb and mural monument for sir Arthur and lady Throckmorton. On the altar tomb, which is of alabaster inlaid with black marble, and upwards of twelve feet in length, are placed in a continuous line, head to head, the figures of the knight and his lady; both are reclining on the side, and rather elevated, he resting his left arm on a pillow, she, her right arm on her mantle, and both contemplating each other with evident affection. Sir Arthur is partially in armour; a coif on his head; short hair and mustachios; falling collar; large pouldrons; cuffs turned back and no gauntlets; transverse belt, but no sword; tassettes buckled to the skirts of the breast plate, and below them are seen puckered skirts or trunk hose. The lady has a loose falling veil; curled hair; open quilled ruff; plain stomacher; full slashed sleeves with cuffs turned back; and flowing drapery.

Above them is an inscribed tablet of white marble, in a black border, and in the circular pediment, *Throckmorton* and *Carew* quarterly, impaling *Lucas*.

ANNO USICI MEDIATORIS

CIO IDC XXVI.

SPECTATOR

LUGE

BONI DEPLUUNT.

HIC JACET ARTHURUS MAGNI NICOLAI
THROCKMORTONI F: ET PATERNARUM
VIRTUTUM INGENUUS HERES, EQUESTRI
CENSU, POLITIS MORIBUS, ANIMI FORTIS,
ESCULTI INGENII, RELIGIOSÆ MENTIS,
ECONOMIA SPLENDIDA, CANDIDISSIMO
PECTORE. JUXTA ACCUBIT CHARISSIMA
EJUS CONJUX ANNA LUCASIORUM: QUÆ

V. On the north wall between the windows, is a handsome tablet of white marble within a black border. On the pediment, arms: Az. on a chevron between three griffins' heads erased Ar. as many cross-crosslets fitchy G. on a chief of the 2d an escallop of the 1st between two cinquefoils of the 3rd, *Shedden*, impaling G. a lion rampant between semée of crosses flory O. *Goodrich*.

IN THE VAULT OF THIS CHANCEL, PERTAINING TO THE MANOR

ARE DEPOSITED THE REMAINS OF

ROBERT SHEDDEN, ESQUIRE,

OF PAULERSPURY PARK, AND OF HARDMEAD, BUCKS,

SON OF WILLIAM THE YOUNGEST SON OF ROBERT,

SHEDDEN OF ROUGHWOOD AND OF COALBURN

IN THE COUNTY OF AYR, NORTH BRITAIN;

HE MARRIED AGATHA WELLS DAUGHTER OF JOHN GOODRICH ESQUIRE
OF NANSEMOND PLANTATION IN THE PROVINCE OF VIRGINIA, WHERE HE WAS
RESIDING AS A MERCHANT PRIOR TO THE AMERICAN REBELLION
IN WHICH COUNTRY ADHERING TO THE CAUSE OF LOYALTY

QUUM LX FERE ANNOS EXPLEVISSET, FER
TOTAM ETATEM MELIOR AN FORMISIOR
FUERAT AMBIGUUM RELIQUIT. ATTIGIT
IPSE ANNU' LXXII. CONVIXERUNT ANN:
XL DIES XVII SINE QUERELA. QUOS TAM
UNANIMITER CONJUNCTOS MARIA
BARONISSA WOTTONIA EX QUATOR
FILIIARIS NATU MAXIMA, SOLAQ' PIISSIMIS
PARENTIBUS SUPERESTES IN HOC PANO
SIMUL CONDIDIT: UBI ET ANTEA TRES
EX PROPRIO PARTU SUAVISSIMÆ SPEI
TENELLOS ELIZABETHAM, CAROLUM,
ET ANNAM IN GLORIOSUM
DIEM DEPOSEERAT.

IV. On the east wall is a large inscribed tablet of white marble, on which is placed an urn, against a pyramid of dark marble:

Here lie the Bodies of Benjamin
Bathurst Knt & Dame Frances Bathurst
his Wife.

Sr Benjamin was descended from
the ancient family of Bathurst of Bathurst in
the County of Sussex. But his Ancestor Laurence
Bathurst having taken part with Henry 6th
forfeited his life & Estate to Edward 4th who granted
the estate to Battle Abbey.

Sr Benjamin was the twelfth Son of
George Bathurst, fourth son of Lancelot Bathurst
of Franks in the County of Kent. In 1610 George
Bathurst married Eliz. Daughter & Co-heiress
of Edward Villiers of Howthorpe in this County
from whom Sr Benjamin inherited the said
Manor & Estate, all his Brothers having died in
his Lifetime without Male issue.

Sr Benjamin was appointed Treasurer to
the Princess Anne of Denmark on the first
Establishment of her Household, & by his singular
Prudence & Oeconomy recommended himself so
far to the favour of his Royal Mistress as that,
on her coming to the Throne, she constituted him
Cofficer of her Household, which Office He
enjoyed till her Death.

His Lady, who was second Daughter of
Sr Allen Apsley of Apsley in Con: Sussex, had the
singular Good fortune to pass her early years with
the two Princesses, Lady Mary & Lady Ann, Both
afterwards Queens of England: and during the
whole of their lives was honour'd with their
Friendship, of which She was in no wise
Undeserving.

He died 27th April 1704, aged 65.

She died Aug. 1727, aged 74.

CLELEY HUNDRED.

HIS POSSESSIONS WERE CONFISCATED,
 AND HIS FLATTERING PROSPECTS IN THE COLONY SACRIFICED,
 BUT BEING BLEST WITH PRUDENCE AND WITH ENERGY OF CHARACTER
 ON HIS RETURN TO GREAT BRITAIN HE AMPLY REDEEMED,
 DURING FORTY YEARS OF ACTIVITY AND PERSEVERANCE,
 THE COST OF LOYALTY AND FIDELITY.
 IN THE EVENTFUL STRUGGLES WHICH CONVULSED EUROPE
 HE CONTINUED A STEADY AND CONSISTENT SUPPORTER
 OF THE CONSTITUTION AND ESTABLISHED RELIGION,
 AND WAS DISTINGUISHED AS A PATRON AND GUARDIAN OF
 PATRIOTIC INSTITUTIONS WHICH BEFRIENDED
 THE WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF THOSE WHO FELL IN BATTLE.
 UNIVERSALLY RESPECTED FOR PROBITY AND LIBERALITY AS A MERCHANT
 AND PRE-EMINENTLY
 FOR HIS JUDGMENT AND ENTERPRISE IN MARINE INSURANCE;
 MILD, CHARITABLE, AND GENEROUS,
 BELOVED BY HIS NUMEROUS FAMILY AND DESCENDANTS
 DEVOUT AND HUMBLE;
 THIS MONUMENT WILL BUT FEEBLY CONVEY
 THAT GENERAL AFFECTION AND REGARD
 WHICH GREETED HIS VIRTUES AND CHERISHES HIS MEMORY.
 HE DEPARTED THIS LIFE THE XXIXth SEPTEMBER
 A. D. MDCCCXXVI.
 ÆT. LXXXV.

VI. Below the last, on a small pedimental tablet of white marble edged with black, within a lozenge, *Shedden*, on an inescutcheon *Goodrich*:

SACRED
 TO THE MEMORY OF
 MARY GEORGE
 THE VERY AFFECTIONATE, MUCH BELOVED
 DAUGHTER OF
 GEORGE SHEDDEN ESQUIRE
 (OF PAULERSPURY PARK)
 AND MARY GOODRICH HIS WIFE;
 WHO DIED THE XXth OF DECEMBER
 MDCCCXXVI.
 AGED XIX.

On a gravestone in the church yard near the south porch is the following inscription for the parents of the celebrated Dr. Carey:

To
 perpetuate the Memory
 of EDMUND CAREY,
 who died June 15th 1816,
 in the 81st year of his age.
 Also ELIZABETH his wife

who died April 16th 1787
 Aged 53 years.
 Likewise of FRANCES
 his second wife
 who died May 30th 1816,
 aged 83 years.
 Reader, Time is short.
 Prepare to meet thy God.

THE INDEPENDENTS have a chapel in Church End, 35ft. long by 25ft. wide.

THE WESLEYAN METHODISTS have a small chapel in Pury End, 24ft. long by 18ft. wide.

BENEFACTIONS. (Vide p. 117.) **SPINALL'S CHARITY.** Mrs. Elizabeth Spinall widow of the rev. John Spinall rector of the parish, by will 13 June 1728 bequeathed £100 to be laid out in the purchase of lands or tenements, and by deed 26 Mar. 1733 Allen lord Bathurst conveyed certain lands to the rev. Henry Layng rector of Paulerspury, the rev. Thomas Leigh rector of Stoke Bruern, and Richard Shipway, the trustees named by her, in trust, pursuant to her will, that they and their heirs and the rectors of Paulerspury and Stoke Bruern for the time being, should distribute the rents and profits on the 14th of November yearly among ten poor widows of Paulerspury, of the church of England, not receiving parochial relief, and if that number could not be found then among other poor householders of the parish. This property now consists of 3a. 2r. 34p. of land allotted by the commissioners of inclosure in lieu of the open field lands, and is let to the incumbent for £8 *per ann.*

LEESON'S CHARITY. The sum of £1, 10s. yearly received under this charity for the poor of Paulerspury, is applied in the same manner as

CLAPHAM'S CHARITY, which consists of £20 given by Mrs. Clapham in 1742 to be put out to interest for the benefit of the poor of this parish. These two charities used to be given yearly by the churchwardens partly in bread and partly in money among the poor of the parish; but for five or six years prior to the report of the charity commissioners they were appropriated to the payment of a debt incurred in 1819, in converting the school subsequently

mentioned, into a national school. As this course of application was irregular, the commissioners recommended that the funds should in future be distributed, as formerly.

LEPPER'S CHARITY. William Lepper by will in 1762 devised a tenement and five acres of land in Yardly Gobion to his nephew William Lepper, subject to a rentcharge of 5s. yearly to the deserving poor of Paulerspury not receiving parochial relief, to be distributed on the Sunday after Christmas at the discretion of him and his heirs. This yearly sum of 5s. is laid out in bread, and given among the poor, selected by the proprietor of the land and the minister of the parish.

MARRIOTT AND NICOLL'S CHARITIES. William Marriott, by will 17 Oct. 1720 devised his lands in Paulerspury to the rev. John Spinnall rector of the parish, Thomas Nicoll, and three other trustees and their heirs, in trust out of the rents and profits on the 1st of Nov. yearly to pay £6 to the master of the school in Paulerspury, who, in consideration thereof, should instruct six boys to be nominated by the minister of Paulerspury and the other trustees, in the church catechism, writing and arithmetic, and should come to church on all church days and bring the boys with him; and the residue of the rents to be distributed at the discretion of the minister and churchwardens in penny bread in the parish church every Sunday amongst the poor of the parish attending church; and that on the decease of the said John Spinnall or of the other trustees, new trustees should be appointed, and so from time to time. This charity estate now consists of an allotment of 21a. 3r. made by the commissioners of inclosure in lieu of the lands originally devised by the will, and is let for £30 *per ann.* The rector of Paulerspury for the time being is the sole acting trustee of the charity, and no conveyances of the property to trustees under the will are known to have been executed. After payment of the £6 to the schoolmaster, the residue amounting to £24 is expended in bread, of which 8s. worth is distributed every Sunday after service, in sixpenny loaves, among sixteen poor persons selected by the rector as being most constant in their attendance at church; and the remainder is given away by him, at other times of the year, amongst deserving and necessitous poor persons of Paulerspury, at his discretion.

Thomas Nicoll, by will 15 Aug. 1726 charged his messuage and farm, and all his other lands in Denshanger and Passenham, with the payment of the annual sum of £13. 4s. clear of all taxes and deductions; and directed that £5 part of the said sum should be applied for the teaching of six poor boys of the parish of Paulerspury, for the term of four years only, to read and learn the church catechism, and to write and cast accounts, and to find them books of all sorts for that purpose, and after that term, six other boys for four years more, and so on successively, the boys to be named by his relations in Paulerspury, or, by want of them, by the minister of the parish for the time being; and that 22s. more of the said rentcharge of £13. 4s. should be yearly laid out in twelve penny loaves of bread to be distributed to twenty-four [-two] ancient poor people of the parish that constantly go to church and hear divine service on St. Thomas's day; and 20s. yearly to the parish clerk of Paulerspury so long as divine service should be continued in the said parish church on Wednesdays, Fridays, and holidays and no longer; and whenever prayers should be discontinued on the days aforesaid—as is now the case—then the payment of the said 20s. to the clerk should cease, and go to the use of such persons as should be entitled to the said farm and lands.

SCHOOL. The above mentioned sums of £6 and £5 yearly given by Marriott and Nicoll for the purpose of education, are applied, with other sums voluntarily contributed, in paying the salary of the master of a school at which the children of the inhabitants, being of the church of England, are gratuitously instructed on the Bellian or National system of education; and twelve of the children are nominated by the rector in respect of those endowments. The schoolroom and house attached, are in Church end, and have become objects of interest, as associated with the early life of Dr. Carey.

EDWARD BERNARD, D.D. a learned astronomer, linguist, and critic of the seventeenth century, was the son of the rev. Joseph Bernard and Elizabeth daughter of John Linche of Wyche in Worcestershire. He was born at Paulerspury on the 2d of May 1638, and baptized there on the 15th of the same month. His father removed to Northampton, where Edward received the rudiments of his education; but on his father's decease, he was sent to his uncle in London, who placed him in Merchant-Taylors' school, from whence he was elected scholar of St. John's college, Oxford, in 1655. During his stay at school, he made considerable proficiency in classical learning, and being fond of philosophical pursuits, on entering the university he applied himself to the acquisition of the Hebrew, Syriac, Arabic, and Coptic languages. In Dec. 1668 he went to Leyden to consult several Oriental MSS. left to that university by Joseph Scaliger and Levinus Warner, and especially the 5th, 6th, and 7th books of Apollonius Pergeus's conic sections; the Greek text of which is lost, but which are preserved in the Arabic version of that author. He transcribed the three books with the diagrams, intending to publish them at Oxford with a Latin translation and proper commentaries, but want of encouragement prevented his carrying the design into execution. On his return to Oxford, he examined and collated the most valuable manuscripts in the Bodleian library, which induced those who published ancient authors to apply to him for observations and emendations, and he consequently became engaged in a very extensive correspondence with the literati on the continent. In 1672 the master and fellows of his college presented him to the rectory of Cheam in Surrey; and February following Dr. Mews the master, being advanced to the bishopric of Bath and Wells, appointed him one of his chaplains; but the following year he relinquished his prospects of future preferment by accepting the Savilian professorship of Astronomy, which, by the statutes of the founder, cannot be held with any other office, ecclesiastical or civil. About this time he projected a complete edition of the ancient mathematicians: with this view he collected all the books published on that subject since the invention of printing, arranged all the MSS. he could discover in the Bodleian and Savilian libraries, and presented a synopsis or view of

* Charity Commissioners' 14th report, p. 220.

† Par. Reg.

the whole to bishop Fell, the great promoter of the undertaking. A few sheets only of Euclid in folio were printed as a specimen. In 1676 he was sent to France by Charles II. to be tutor to his natural sons the dukes of Grafton and Northumberland; but, the plainness and simplicity of his manners ill according with the gaiety of the dukes of Grafton Cleveland's establishment, he remained only one year. He resumed his residence at Oxford, and undertook a new edition of Josephus. He wrote numerous letters to his learned friends in France, Holland, Germany, and other countries, to desire their assistance in the work, and it was put to press at the expense of the university; but a misunderstanding arising between him and the curators, the printing was finally abandoned. Six or seven years afterwards he was prevailed upon by three booksellers in Oxford to re-edit the work in a less expensive form; but their part of the fifth of the Jewish Antiquities, and the first book and part of the second of the Destruction of Jerusalem, which were printed in 1686 and 1687, and published in 1700, fol. His notes, which evinced much learned research and critical acumen, have been incorporated into Havercamp's edition. In 1691 he resigned his professor's chair, and was presented by his old friend and patron bishop Mews to the rich rectory of Brightwell in Berkshire. The following year he drew up a catalogue of the MSS. in Great Britain and Ireland with a most useful and complete alphabetical index, which was published under the title of *Catalogi Librorum Manuscriptorum Angliæ et Hiberniæ in unum collecti*, &c. 1697, fol. He died of a lingering consumption 12 Jan. 1696-7, and was buried in St. John's chapel, where his widow placed a tablet to his memory, in the centre of which is a heart, circumscribed according to his own directions, HANEMUS COR BERNARDI. He was of a mild disposition, averse to disputation; and his piety and prudence never suffered him to be hurried away by immoderate zeal in declaiming against the errors of others. His principal publications are, A treatise on the ancient weights and measures, printed first at the end of Dr. Pocock's commentaries on Hosea, 1685, folio, and afterwards reprinted in Latin, with very great additions and alterations, under this title "*De mensuris & ponderibus antiquis, libri tres*," 1688, 8vo. Private devotions, with a brief explication of the ten commandments, 1689, 12mo. "*Orbis eruditi Literatura a characterè Samaritanico deducta*," printed at Oxford on one side of a broad sheet of paper; containing at one view the different forms of letters used by the Phœnicians, Samaritans, Jews, Syrians, Arabs, Persians, Brachmans, and other Indian philosophers, Malabarians, Greeks, Copts, Russians, Slavonians, Ethiopians, Franks, Saxons, Goths, &c. "*Chronologiæ Samaritanæ Synopsis*" in two tables. Besides these, he wrote some astronomical papers in the Philosophical Transactions, and several learned essays incorporated in other works; and left behind him many MS. volumes of his own composition, and very large collections, which, together with the books enriched with marginal notes by learned men, and collected by him in France and Holland, were purchased by the curators of the Bodleian library, who bought also a considerable number of other curious and valuable books out of his library, which were wanting in the Bodleian. The remainder were sold by auction, all men of letters striving to purchase those which had any observations in his own hand.

WILLIAM CAREY, D.D. the patriarch of Indian missions, and the first Oriental professor of languages in India, a striking instance of innate talent and energy of character emerging from obscurity to eminence, was a native of this village. He was not improbably descended from James Cary who was curate from 1624 to 1630; if so, the family underwent a gradual process of deterioration. His grandfather Peter Carey may be presumed to have been respectably connected, and well educated from the peculiarly free and elegant style of his signatures in the register as parish clerk. His father Edmund Carey was originally a journeyman tammy weaver, and lived in the very humble cottage in Pury End represented in the accompanying vignette. Here, WILLIAM his eldest child by Elizabeth his (first) wife was born on the 17th of August 1761, and baptised on the 23d of the same month *. When he was about seven years old his father removed to the school house in Church End on being appointed parish clerk and schoolmaster, which united offices he filled in a manner which gained him the respect of his fellow parishioners for nearly half a century. The elementary instruction imparted by his father constituted the entire education of the future learned linguist. He early evinced a thirst for knowledge and a taste for nature; and his hours of relaxation, instead of being devoted to customary amusements, were spent in the school room or the garden. His sister Mary, adverting to his childhood remarks, "I was often carried in his arms on many of his walks; and I recollect even now with what delight he used to shew me the beauties in the *growth of plants*." When a boy, he was of a studious turn, and fully bent on learning, and always resolutely determined never to give up any point or particle of any thing on which his mind was set, till he had arrived at a clear knowledge and sense of his subject. He was not to be allured or diverted from it; he was firm to his purpose and steady in his endeavour to improve." His term of pupillage was as limited as his means of improvement; for at the age of fourteen years he was bound apprentice to a shoemaker at Hackleton. In the year 1783, when his religious principles had been decidedly formed, he joined the dissenters of the Baptist denomination, and was publicly baptised at Northampton in the river Nen near Scarlet well by the late Dr. Ryland. He was soon after induced, at the suggestion of some of his religious friends, to commence village preaching, but without renouncing his manual occupation; and persons are still living who remember seeing him on his Saturday walk to his employer at Northampton, bearing on his back the produce of his weekly labour. In 1786 he settled at Moulton as pastor of a small Baptist congregation, and opened a village school as a means of increasing his narrow income which was much below £20 per annum. He is said to have constructed a globe of *leather*; and whilst pointing out the different nations to his pupils as he naturally mentioned the religion of each—"These are Christians and these are Mahometans, and these are *Pagans*, and these are *Pagans*,"—it forcibly struck him "I am now telling these children as a mere fact, that which is a truth of the most melancholy character." Thus was he led to the train of thought which produced his "*Inquiry into the obligations of Christians to use means for the Conversion of the HEATHEN*;" in which the religious state of the different nations of the World, the success of former undertakings, and the practicability of further attempts, are

* Par. Reg.

considered." Diffidence, combined with poverty, however, delayed the publication till 1792; and meantime in Sept. 1790 he had undertaken the pastoral charge of the Baptist congregation at Leicester. Not content with advocating through the press the necessity of missionary exertions, he rested not till he had inspired his religious connections with similar views, and on the 2d of Oct. 1792 the ministers of the Northamptonshire and Leicestershire association assembled at Kettering, formed themselves into a Baptist Missionary Society. The consequent mission to India originated, says Dr. Ryland, "absolutely with Carey;" and in June 1793 he sealed the sincerity of his zeal by embarking for India; and so devoted was he to his great work that some years after he had engaged in it he wrote to a friend "I would not change my station for all the society in England, much as I prize it; nor indeed for all the wealth in the world. May I but be useful in laying the foundation of the church of Christ in India, I desire no greater reward, and can receive no higher honor." He arrived in Bengal in November with Mr. Thomas his associate, who died soon after. The small investment which they brought for their establishment was unfortunately sunk in the Hooghly with the boat which contained it, leaving Carey with his wife and children in a state of comparative destitution amidst strangers in a foreign country. Thus desolate, he erected a temporary dwelling or hut, intending to support his family by the cultivation of land, but in March 1794 he undertook the charge of an indigo factory near Malda. In this neighbourhood he founded schools and preached as opportunities served. He relinquished his appointment there, towards the close of 1799, and in January following finally fixed his residence at the Danish settlement of Serampore, a place which has since derived its principal celebrity from being the seat of this mission. Dr. Carey's aptitude for acquiring languages was his most wonderful natural endowment. Without the advantages of a classical education and whilst struggling with poverty, supporting himself first by manual exertion and then as a village pastor and school-master, by dint of unaided application he enabled himself, before he left Moulton, to read his Bible in the Latin, Greek, Hebrew, French, Italian, and Dutch languages! This peculiar faculty of his mind was of incalculable service to the Missionary cause. On his arrival in India he naturally applied himself to the Bengalee, the native tongue of the district in which he was situated; and in 1796 he added the study of the Sungskrit, the grand root of all the Eastern dialects. By the close of 1799 he had nearly completed the translation of the holy Scriptures into the Bengalee; on the 16th of May 1800 the first sheet of the New Testament was struck off at the Serampore press, and in rather more than thirty years he lived to see, principally through his instrumentality, the whole or portions of the Sacred Text translated and printed in forty different dialects.

In 1801 his high reputation obtained him the honor of being the first professor of the Sungskrit, Bengalee, and Mahratta languages in the college of Fort William at Calcutta founded by marquis Wellesley, the governor-general. Though the liberal salary of £1500 per ann. was attached to the triple chair, his friends had great difficulty in prevailing upon him to accept it; and the whole surplus of the income, beyond his necessary expenses, he nobly devoted to the great object to which he had consecrated his life. About the year 1805 he received a diploma from one of the Scotch universities, as doctor of divinity. In the following year he was elected a member of the Asiatic society of Calcutta; and in 1823 was appointed Translator of the laws and regulations of the governor-general of India in council.

His philological contributions to Oriental literature were immense. In 1805 he published his *Grammar of the Mahratta language*, which reached a second edition (8vo). This was followed by the *Sungskrit Grammar*, 4to. 1806 and 1808. *Ramayana of Valmeeki in the original Sungskrit with a prose translation and explanatory notes*; in conjunction with Dr. Marshman, 4 vols. 4to. 1806 to 1810. *Mahratta Dictionary*, 8vo. 1810. *Punjabee Grammar*, 8vo. 1812. *Telinga Grammar*, 8vo. 1814. *Bengalee Dictionary*, 3 vols. 4to. 1818, 2d ed. 1825. *Bengalee Dictionary*, 2 vols. 8vo. 1827 to 1830. The first volume consists of an abridgement of the 4to edition; the second vol. is a dictionary English and Bengalee by Mr. J. C. Marshman. *Bengalee Grammar*, 4th ed. *Colloquies in English and Bengalee*, 8d ed. *Boltanta Dictionary*, 4to. 1826. *Boltanta Grammar*, in conjunction with Dr. Marshman. *Kurnata Grammar*. To secure the gradual perfection of the translations from the Scriptures, he projected and with unwearied assiduity collected materials for *An Universal Dictionary of the Oriental Languages derived from the Sungskrit*; giving the different acceptations of every word, with examples of their application in the manner of Johnson, and then the synonyms in the different languages with the corresponding Greek and Hebrew terms, always putting the word derived from the Sungskrit term first, and then those derived from other sources. When this elaborate work was nearly completed, a fire broke out in Serampore and burnt down the printing office, destroying the impressions, together with the copy and other property.

The admiration of nature which shewed itself so strongly in his boyhood never left him in maturer life, and he found a grateful relief in botanical and agricultural pursuits, from the almost overwhelming pressure of his religious duties and philological studies. He had the choicest garden of any private European in India; and when Dr. Roxburgh returned to his native country, the keys of the government botanic garden were at his request committed to Dr. Carey, who in 1812 printed the *Hortus Bengalensis*, or catalogue of the plants in the Company's botanic gardens at Calcutta. The manuscripts of his friend Roxburgh were committed to his care, which he edited under the title of *The Flora Medica*, first in two volumes in 1821-1824; and afterwards in three volumes in 1832. The *Agricultural and Horticultural society of India* originated in the prospectus issued by Dr. Carey from the Mission house, Serampore, in 1820. When the first meeting was called, no one appeared excepting Dr. Marshman and another gentleman, but the plan was soon patronised by the marquis and marchioness of Hastings; Carey was for some time the secretary, and the institution is now in a flourishing state. To his exertions in the cause of humanity may be fairly attributed the prevention of infanticide and of persons devoting themselves to death at Sangur island. In 1805 he memorialised government for the abolition of the suttees, or immolation of widows on the funeral piles of their husbands; and it was meant for the influence that the marquis Wellesley left a minute on retiring from the Indian government, declaring his through his influence that suttees might and ought to be abolished; though it was not till December 1829 that the burning or conviction that suttees widow, was declared by the governor general in council to be *illegal*, a day never to be burying alive of the Hindoo widow, was declared by the governor general in council to be *illegal*, a day never to be forgotten in India. The doctor took an active part in the attempt to establish a *leper* hospital at Calcutta. The

Benevolent Institution in the same city, for the education of the indigent and neglected Portuguese children, was established by the senior Serampore brethren in 1809, and has continued under their management to the present day; they are entitled also to the merit of opening the first schools for Hindoo females, and schools for boys have long been formed at their stations scattered over India.

Dr. Carey attained an age seldom reached by Europeans in India; and, though three several times he suffered attacks of fever which threatened his removal from the world, his invaluable labours were extended even beyond the allotted span of "three score years and ten." His health had been gradually declining from the autumn of 1833, but he was only confined to his couch for about a month prior to his decease—suffering no pain, and retaining his faculties to the last, he frequently declared he had not a wish left unsatisfied, and closed his long and useful life on the 9th of June 1834, in the seventy-third year of his age. He was thrice married: 1st. to Dorothy Plackett of Piddington; married there in May 1781, and died in 2d. Charlotte Amelia, daughter of the chevalier Rumohr by the countess of Alfeldt; married May 1808, and died 30th May 1821. 3d. Mrs. Grace Forbes, widow of — Forbes, esq. of Calcutta; married July 1822, and survives him. By his first wife he had three sons, and it is a remarkable, if not an unique circumstance, that in a climate peculiarly trying to a British constitution, he was spared to see not only his children's children, but even the third generation.

At the first meeting of the Asiatic society of Calcutta after the doctor's decease, the bishop of the diocese moved the following tribute to his memory, which was carried unanimously: "The Asiatic society cannot note upon their proceedings the death of the rev. William Carey, D.D. so long an active member and an ornament of this institution, distinguished alike for his high attainments in the Oriental languages, for his eminent services in opening the store of Indian literature to the knowledge of Europe, and by his extensive acquaintance with the sciences, the natural history and botany of this country, and his useful contributions, in every branch, towards the promotion of the objects of the society, without placing on record this expression of their high sense of his value and merits as a scholar and a man of science; their esteem for the sterling and surpassing religious and moral excellencies of his character; and their sincere grief for his irreparable loss." Similar tributes of respect to his character, and acknowledgments of his invaluable missionary services, were entered on the proceedings of the Baptist Missionary society, the Bible society, and other religious institutions in England. By his will, he utterly disclaimed all or any right or title to the premises at Serampore, called the Mission Premises, and every part and parcel thereof, and thereby declared that he never had or supposed himself to have any such right or title. And he bequeathed to the college of Serampore, the whole of his museum consisting of minerals, shells, corals, insects, and other natural curiosities; and a hortus siccus. Also the folio edition of Hortus Woburnensis which was given to him by lord Hastings; Taylor's Hebrew Concordance; his collection of Bibles in foreign languages, and all his books in the Italian and German languages. Before he was removed by death from the scene of his labors, he had the satisfaction of completing the final revision of his translation of the Scriptures in Bengalee and Sungskrit; of seeing the infant Christian church which he had planted, branched out into six and twenty others in connection with the mission; and of witnessing that extraordinary change in the moral and religious aspect of British India, to which, without detracting one iota from what is due to his able coadjutors, and other zealous labourers in the same field, he must be considered as having been the principal contributor. Those who are best acquainted with the history of modern missions, will be the most ready to assent to the justice of the eloquent eulogy pronounced on him by the late Robert Hall, who in his funeral sermon for Dr. Ryland, characterises Carey as "that extraordinary man who from the lowest obscurity and poverty, without assistance rose by dint of unrelenting industry to the highest honors of literature, became one of the first of orientlists, the first of missionaries, and the instrument of diffusing more religious knowledge among his contemporaries than has fallen to the lot of any individual since the reformation; a man who unites with the most profound and varied attainments, the fervour of an evangelist, the piety of a saint, and the simplicity of a child." There is an engraved portrait of the doctor, attended by his pundit, the use of which has been liberally contributed by Joseph Gutteridge, esq. of Denmark hill, near London, to the embellishment of this history of his native county.



PLUMPTON

forms the north-western division of the parish of Paulerspury.

MANORIAL HISTORY. PEVEREL FEE^a. By the inquisition of knight's service belonging to escheated honors in 13 Joh. (1211) *Robert de Salecto* was found to hold three parts of a knight's fee in Plumpton, Ykeley (Eakley in Buckinghamshire), and Harpole in this county, and the fourth part in Saverton in Nottinghamshire, making one fee, of the honor of Peverel of Nottingham^a.

MANOR. Robert de Salecto, junior, left six daughters and coheireses[†], whose husbands *Peter de Goldington*, *Robert de Lou*, *Lupus*, or *Wolfe*, *Alan de Romeney* or *Rumely*, *Walter* (or *Walkelin*) *de Mortimer*, *Adam de Napton*, and *Simon de Thorp* paid relief for their lands 20 Hen. 3 (1235-6)^b; and in the Testa de Nevill were certified to hold two fourth parts of a fee in Plumpton and Harpole, of the honor of Peverel, which Beatrice widow of the said Robert de Salecto held of them in dower^c. The manor thus became subdivided into six parts. Goldington appears to have acquired two shares; one and a half of which, with Rumely's share, were alienated in 42 Hen. 3 (1257) to

Philip Luvell. William de Nowers and *Isabella* his wife (one of the daughters and coheireses of Goldington^d) levied a fine to him of a sixth of the manor^d; Milo de Hastings and *Dionisia* his wife (another of the coheireses of Goldington^e) a moiety of a sixth^d; and *Alan de Rumely* his sixth of the manor^d.

In 7 Edw. 1 (1278) *Joan* wife of Roger de Lyons^f died seized of forty-four acres of arable land, two acres and a half of meadow, two acres of wood, and a certain annual rent in Plumpton, which her father *Adam de Napton* had settled on her in marriage; she had also twelve acres of arable land in exchange with John le Lou; and forty-four acres of arable land, two acres and a half of meadow, and certain annual rents which she held during the minority of Simon, son and heir of Ralph de Thorp^g.

On the inquisition of knights' fees in 24 Edw. 1 (1295) *John Luvell*, *John le Lou*, *Richard de Lyons* (son of Joan), and *Simon de Thorp* were returned to hold the manor of Plumpton by the service of the fourth part of a fee^h.

In 4 Edw. 3 (1330) *Richard Damory* died seized of a messuage, a carucate of land containing five virgates of arable, ten acres of meadow and 100s. yearly rent in Plumpton Pyrie, held of Robert de Napton by unknown service, leaving *Richard Damory* his son and heir aged sixteen yearsⁱ.

In 27 Edw. 3 (1353) *Thomas de Ferrers* died seized of the manor of More-end in Potterspury held of the earl of Warwick, and the manor of Plumpton Perry, held of the heir of Robert de Paveley by knight's service, leaving William his son and heir aged twenty-one years; but he did not inherit these manors, his father having settled them on Anka-ret le Strange his late wife for life, remainder to Henry de Lisle, in tail male, remainder to Thomas le Despencer in tail male, remainder to himself in fee^j. *Sir Thomas le Despencer* being, by virtue of this entail, in possession of these manors, transferred them, with other lands in Northamptonshire, in 37 Edw. 3 (1363) to

The King, remainder to William de Ferrers in fee under certain conditions, in exchange for a moiety of the manor of Burghley in Rutlandshire in tail male^k. Plumpton Pury manor, called Plumpton hall, with the park adjoining, was given by king Edward III. to his paramour *Alice Perers* for life; and on her attainder in 1 Ric. 2 (1377) was found to be held of John de Paveley by service of half a pound of cinnamon^k.

Anne queen of king Richard II. had a grant of this manor for life. By an inquisition taken in 13 Ric. 2 (1389) whilst in her possession, but for what purpose does not appear, it was found to be parcel of the manor and castle of More-end^l. 'In the eighteenth year of this reign the custody of it^m was committed to *Thomas de Everdon* and *John Schright* for the term of ten years, they paying eleven marks yearly for the farm of it.'

Plumpton remained in the crown, till included in the provision made by king Charles II. for the first duke of Grafton, from whom it has descended to George-Henry 4th duke of Grafton, K.G.

CHACOMB PRIORY had five messuages with pertinencies in Plumpton Pury, with lands in other places, from John de Lyons in 20 Edw. 3 (1346) in exchange for other lands and rents belonging to the said conventⁿ.

PARK. In 2 Edw. 3 (1328) *Richard Damory* had licence to impark his woods of Ubleigh in Somersetshire and Plumpton Pury in Northamptonshire^o. On the north side of the Chester road opposite Paulerspury, is a small public house called Plumb Park corner, and between eighty and ninety acres adjoining—the property of sir John Mordaunt, bart.—still retain the name of the park, and are included in the Grafton and Potterspury park estates.

THE MANOR HOUSE stood in the Hall close.

THE VILLAGE consists of a farm house and about a dozen cottages contiguous to, and incorporated with Pury-end, or the upper village of Paulerspury.

^a Cardigan MSS. H. p. 214.

^b Pip. Northt. 20 Hen. 3.

^c Test. Nev. fo. 124.

^d Hatton. MSS. 'Fin. 42 Hen. 3.

^e Esc. 7 Edw. 1, n. 24.

^f Cardigan MSS. 'Nom. Vill.' p. 90.

^g Esc. 4 Edw. 3, n. 13.

^h Esc. 27 Edw. 3, r. 50.

ⁱ Pat. 37 Edw. 3

p. 2, m. 26.

^j Esc. 1 Ric. 2, n. 30.

^k Esc. 13 Ric. 2, n. 29.

^l Br. 1, p. 315.

^m Rot. Fin. anno 18 Ric. 2, m. 18.

ⁿ Esc. (Inq. ad

q. 4.) 20 Edw. 3, p. 2, n. 54.

^o Pat. 2 Edw. 3, p. 2, m. 19.

^p Vide DEWSON, vol. 1, p. 135.

^q Vide HARPOLE, vol. 1, p. 176.

^r Vide RAVENSTHORPE, vol. 1, p. 216.

^s Vide WARKWORTH,

vol. 1, p. 739.

^t Vide ASHTON, p. 124.

HEYMUNDCOTE or HEATHENCOTE.

Morton conjectures that Heathencote "had its Name from the *Danes* (usually called *Heathen Men* in the *Saxon Annals*) either taking up their Quarters occasionally, or else inhabiting in it. The latter is the most likely; for from the main Colony at Northampton, no doubt, were several Casts into the Neighbouring Towns and Villages *v.*" Unfortunately for this hypothesis in all early records this hamlet is written *Heymundcote*—a designation evidently derived from the first possessor; and it was not till a comparatively late period that it was corrupted into the now generally adopted orthography of Heathencote. The lordship was inclosed under the same act of parliament as Paulerspury. The principal proprietors are the duke of Grafton, K.G. and the earl of Pomfret.

MANORIAL HISTORY. HONOR OF HUNTINGDON*. HONOR OF PEVEREL†. Heymundcote is not specifically mentioned in domesday; but it was probably, as presumed by Bridges‡, that part of the lordship of *Pirie* which was the Saxon freehold of *Biscop* 1. At the survey it was held by *William Peverel* under the countess Judith*, and contained a hide and the fifth part of a hide. The arable land was three carucates; of which one was in demesne with two servants; and six villeins with three bordars had the other two. There was five acres of meadow; and a wood four furlongs long and two wide. The whole had been, and still was valued at 30s. yearly. In the hydariam of Hen. 2 the heirs of *Gaffet* held this hide and a fifth in *Pyria* of the fee of king David‡, of Scotland, the representative of the countess Judith. The tenure under the honor of Huntingdon does not occur again; and the subsequent holdings are of the honor of Peverel.

MANOR. In the Testa de Nevill about 18 Hen. 3 (1233) *Robert de Pavely*§ paid scutage for one fee in Heymundcote of the honor of Peverel†; but he had only an intermediate seignory, the family having early subinfeudated their interest here. From the benefactions to St. James's abbey, subsequently noticed, it may be inferred that *Geoffrey de Lisle* was lord about the close of the twelfth century; the *Tremenels* in the reign of Henry III.; and sir *John de Wedone* in the succeeding reign. In 9 Edw. 2 (1315) *Ralph de Wedon* was lord of Heymundcote‡; and in 20 Edw. 3 (1346) he, or his son of both names, on levying the aid for knighting the king's eldest son, accounted for one fee in Heymundcote held of the heir of Robert de Pavely of the honor of Peverel.

In 43 Edw. 3 (1369) sir *Henry Green* died seised of the manor of Heymundcote, held of sir *John Pavely* by the payment of 8d. yearly. From him it descended with *GREENS NORTON*|| on the extinction of the male line, to the families of *Vaux* and *Parr* in moieties; and though it is not specially named, it was probably included in the sale from sir *Arthur Darcy* to king *Henry VIII.* as it certainly was in the grant from king *Edward VI.* to *William Parr*, *marquis of Northampton*||.

Amongst the proceedings in chancery in the reign of queen Elizabeth, is a suit brought by *Edward Catesby*, whose father *Richard Catesby* conveyed the manor of Heathencote, by way of indemnity, against *Thomas Pell*, *Robert Harrison*, *Robert Sheffield*, and *Thomas Shrimpton*, for redemption of security.

In 12 Jac. (1614) *Gregory Donhault*, esq. died seised of the manor of Heathencote with capital messuage and lands held of the lord of the manor of West Pury (Paulerspury) in free and common socage by fealty only, leaving *Jerome Donhault* his brother and heir aged fifty-five years.

In 6 Geo. 1 (1719) an act of parliament was passed to enable *Thomas Dove*, of Upton near Peterborough, esq. to sell his estate at Heathencote.

George Shedden, esq. claims the manor of Heathencote as parcel of the manor of Paulerspury. The duke of Grafton claims a manor in Paulerspury and Heathencote as part of the honor of Grafton.

ST. JAMES'S ABBEY had 40s. yearly rent out of Denelfescroft in Heymundcote of the gift of Roger son of John de Tremenele. Eustace de Gerardville (or Gerradenum) gave to the abbot and convent the tenement which he held in Heymundcote of John Tremenele, and the service which *Geoffrey Beneit* owed him, they rendering 40d. yearly to his chief lord sir *John de Tremenele*; and Roger Tremenele released to them the service due to him for the tenement in Heymundcote given to them by Eustace (de Gerardville) formerly rector of Westbury. Sir *John de Wedon* for the soul of *Geoffrey de Lisle* gave them 46d. yearly rent from Robert Beneit in Heymundcote.

THE VILLAGE, consisting of about twenty houses, skirts the Chester road about a mile to the east of Towcester.

CHAPEL. *Geoffrey de Lisle* for the souls of his father and mother, Matilda his wife, and Agatha his daughter, gave to God and St. Mary and the chaplain in the chapel of the blessed virgin in Heymundcote, the house which Henry the chaplain then held, rendering two pounds of wax yearly to the sacrist of St. James's abbey; and Walkelin abbot of St. James between 1180 (26 Hen. 2) and 1205 (7 Joh.) with the assent of the convent, granted him permission to elect an apt and sufficient chaplain to their chapel of Heymundecot so that the said chaplain should pay to the abbey two wax lights of two pounds yearly, and have for the support of himself and his deacon all which the said *Geoffrey* gave to the chapel. No trace or even tradition of the chapel now remains.

* Morton, p. 537.

† Br. 1, p. 314.

‡ Domesd. fo. 279.

§ Cotton. MSS. Vesp. E. xxij. fo. 96.

|| Test. Nev. fo. 126 & 131.

* Cardigan MSS. "Nom. VIII." p. 10.

* Testam. MSS. No. 39, p. 129, "Comp. Walt. Parles."

† Esc. 43 Edw. 3, p. 1, n. 48.

* Esc. 17 Jac. p. 3, n. 38.

† Br. MSS. E. p. 133 a. & b.

|| Ibid. p. 134.

* Proceedings in chancery Cp. Ella. C. c. 5.

* Vide YARDEY HASTINGS.

† Vide DUNSTON, vol. 1, p. 138.

‡ Vide HARFOLK, vol. 1, p. 176.

§ Vide PAULERSPUY, p. 200.

|| Vide p. 60.

POTTERSPURY,

formerly written East Pury from its relative situation to Paulerspury, and in more modern times Potterspury, contains with its members Yardley Gobion, More End, and Wakefield, about 3200 acres; of which about 635 acres are in Whitelebury forest; about 1645 acres belong to George-Henry duke of Grafton, K.G. lord of the manor; about 300 acres to sir John Mordaunt, M.P. for Warwickshire; and about 150 acres to the devices of the late admiral Sotheby. The open fields of Potterspury and Yardley Gobion were enclosed by act of parliament 15 Geo. 3 (1775). Pury Park and More End are old inclosure.

The parish is bounded on the north by Grafton Regis; east by Cosgrave and Furtho; south by Wicken and Whitelebury forest; and west by Paulerspury. The soil is principally a strong grey loam on lime stone. Morton thus describes the pottery here. "The Earth of the Potteries at *Potters-Perry* is found in *Cosgrave* Field nigh *Goldsbury* Mill. In some Places there, it lies next under the Soil, and is sometimes turned up by the Plough. The Depth of the Bed is uncertain; 'tis scarce above two Foot at most. It is a yellowish Clay, dense and firm, and free from Mixture. Yet notwithstanding its Density, the Ware made of it is of a brittle and less enduring Nature than that of *Ticknal* in *Derbyshire*; tho' equal Care and Skill have been used in the managing it: an Effect, which we may therefore reasonably suspect, proceeds from some *Salt* embody'd in the Clay. The Gardenpots made of it, tho' never so well baked, are very apt to scale, and be broken in Pieces, by foul Weather and Frosts; but being *Siz'd*, that is, laid in Oyl, will abide the Weather, as well as any whatsoever; as the Sellers of them say: But others, who made that Experiment, have found it fail them. Nevertheless it is the largest, as well as oldest *Pottery* in all those Parts. Its Antiquity appears by the common Appellation of the Town, its Name being chang'd long since from *East Pury* to *Potters Pury* on this Account^a." This pottery has been discontinued many years.

Cleley, well which gives name to the hundred, is in this parish bordering on Furtho.

MANORIAL HISTORY. FERRERS FEE. HONOR OF TUTBURY. From the Saxon era to the present day, Potterspury has never once been in possession of a commoner, but has been the successive property—if not the residence—of some of the most distinguished families in the peerage. In the time of Edward the confessor, "Pyrie^b" with Wyke Hamon or Wicken^c, belonged to earl *Tosti*, fourth son of Godwin earl of Kent, who was raised to the earldom of Northumberland in 1056^d. He was of a haughty, turbulent, and cruel disposition, and was twice banished for his inhuman enormities. He fled with his wife to her father Baldwin earl of Flanders, with whom he continued till the death of the Confessor, when he made depredatory sallies along the line of coast from the isle of Wight to Lincolnshire, and landing in Lindsey burnt several towns and murdered the inhabitants. His brother king Harold despatching Edwin earl of Mercia, and Morcar, against him, he took refuge in Scotland; but joining the expedition of the king of Norway, he sailed with him up the Humber, and landed in Yorkshire. Earl Edwin and Morcar having unsuccessfully opposed them, king Harold advanced with a powerful army, and in a desperate engagement near York, both the Norwegian king and earl *Tosti* were slain^e. Harold in his turn lost his life and crown. The Norman conqueror bestowed "Pyrie" on one of his most powerful barons.

Henry de Ferrieres, and at the domesday survey it contained three hides and the fifth part of a hide. The arable land was ten carucates; of which three were in demesne with three servants; and twenty villeins and seven bordars with a priest had the remaining seven. There was a mill worth 18s. 4d. yearly; sixteen acres of meadow; and a wood six furlongs and fourteen perches in length, and two furlongs and a half in breadth. The whole had been, and still was valued at £6 yearly^f.

The family of Ferrars or Ferrers assumed the name from a small town of Gastinois in France called Ferrieres from the iron mines with which it abounded. Henry de Ferrieres or Ferrars, was son of Walchelin, and progenitor of an illustrious line of English nobility. HIGHAM FERRERS, being denominated from the earls of that name, will be the most appropriate place for their pedigree. *Shirley* earl Ferrers, their co-heir general through Devereux, has been already given under ASTWELL¹. *Ferrers of Chartley*, the lineal male representatives of the ancient earls, but divested of the earldom, will be found under BUGBROOK²; and *Ferrers of Groby*, the second ennobled branch, under NEWBOTTLE³. Though unconnected with this county, it may not be irrelevant to observe, that *Ferrers of Okeham* became early extinct; *Ferrers of Wenme* is a barony in abeyance; and the sole surviving male representation of this once noble house is now vested in the gentillial family of *Ferrers of Baddesley* Clinton in Warwickshire.

Besides Potterspury, *Henry de Ferrers* had Ecton and Titchmarsh, and three houses in Northampton; and nearly two hundred and twenty manors in fourteen other counties. He was one of the commissioners appointed for the compilation of the domesday survey. His claim to the title of earl was one of the many points in dispute between Brooke author of the "Catalogue of Nobility" and his caustic commentator Vincent. The former genealogist grounds the affirmative on the authority of a comparatively modern copy of his epitaph⁴, which, it must be admitted is but apocryphal evidence. His opponent supports the negative by citing charters from William the conqueror to Westminster abbey in 1067 and to Caen abbey in 1083, in the attestations to which, Ferrers occurs without any titular addition; but this omission is not absolutely conclusive, for in the latter "W. de Warennia" who immediately precedes

^a Morton, p. 72.

^b Domesd. fo. 225.

^c Ibid. fo. 228.

^d Dugd. Bar. i, p. 5, &c.

^e Domesd. fo. 225.

^f Vincent

on Brooke, p. 199, 199.

* Vide vol. i, p. 128.

+ Vide vol. i, p. 103.

† Vide vol. i, p. 733.

‡ Vide vol. i, p. 123.

him was doubtless the earl Warren, and if he omitted his title of earl, why might not Ferrers? and it is observable that all those who signed with the addition of "*comes*" possessed territorial earldoms in England, whereas those of additional proofs: he styles himself simply *Henricus de Ferrariis* in his foundation charter of Tutbury abbey in Staffordshire; and he is so called by the Norman historian Ordericus Vitalis, when relating the grant to him, of Tutbury respect to his eldest surviving son and successor *Robert de Ferrers*, who, in reward of his services at the battle of the Standard where he commanded the Derbyshire men, was created earl of Derby by king Stephen.¹ His grandson *William earl Ferrers*, by his marriage with the heiress of Peverel, added Higham Ferrers with its dependencies, and *Newbottle*, and Blisworth to his Northamptonshire property. In the hydariun of Hen. 2 *Robert de Ferrers* was returned as holding Pyrie for three hides and two small virgates of the fee of earl Ferrers², his father. *William earl Ferrers*, son of this Robert, was temporarily dispossessed of the earldom of Derby by king Richard I; but his son and successor of the same name, was in 1 Joh. (1199) solemnly created, or rather re-created earl of Derby at Northampton, by the ceremony of the king himself girding him with a sword—the first known instance of that mode of investiture into the dignity. The charter recording the creation granted to him and his heirs the third penny of all pleas impleaded before the sheriff of that county, as well in Derby as without, in the same manner as enjoyed by any of his ancestors³. In the Testa de Nevill about 25 Hen. 3 (1240) the fees of the earl in this county, of the honors of Tutbury and Peverel, with the names and tenures of the mesne lords, are enumerated⁴. In 32 Hen. 3 (1247) and 35 Hen. 3 (1250) his son *William earl Ferrers* and Derby had grants of free warren in Pirie and ten other manors in this county, and Stanford in Berkshire⁵; and in the following year had a very extensive grant of the same privilege in the counties of Lancaster, Derby, and Stafford⁶. In July 33 Hen. 3 (1249)⁷ he covenanted that Robert his eldest son should in the feast of All Saints following marry the king's niece Isabel daughter of Hugh le Brun earl of Angoulesme, and that he would endow her with the manors of Pery in Northamptonshire and Stanford in Berkshire, and if Robert should pre-decease him, he would secure to her lands worth £200 yearly in some other part of Northamptonshire, in case those allotted should fall short of that value, but if Robert survived him, she should have the third of all his lands for her jointure; the king agreeing on his part to portion her with £100 yearly out of the exchequer. Isabel dying in the interim between July and November, her sister Mary was substituted, and the marriage is thus recorded in the cartulary of Burton priory. 1249. Robert Ferrars son of William de Ferrars earl of Derby, a child nine years of age, espoused at Westminster, Mary, king Henry's niece, daughter of his brother the earl of Angoulesme, a child eight years of age. The king in the following year granted to the earl the £100 yearly in trust, till the legal age of his son Robert⁸; and in 37 Hen. 3, the earl in pursuance of his contract assigned the manors of Pery and Stanford to the king⁹.

Mary died issueless; and Robert, then earl Ferrers and Derby, married secondly Eleanor daughter of Ralph lord Basset. In the struggle between king Henry III. and the barons, he acted a vacillating part. At the outset he was one of the leading confederated spirits, but, jealous of Montfort, seceded with Clare earl of Gloucester. On the renewal of hostilities he again opposed the king; and when the temporary regality of the barons was annihilated by prince Edward's victory at Evesham, he was specially excepted from the composition of his lands under the Dictum de Kenilworth, and being summoned to appear personally before the king, submitted himself to the royal mercy. He purchased his pardon with 1500 marks (£1000) to be paid within twelve months and a cup of gold ornamented with gems, purchased of Michael de Tony, for which he mortgaged the manor of Piry¹⁰, and which he delivered to the king at Northampton¹¹. The express condition of an irrevocable forfeiture of title and estate in case of future delinquency, and on his part, the sanction of a solemn oath, and a deed sealed with his arms, accompanied his restoration to favour; yet all proved insufficient to secure his fidelity. The ensuing spring he raised a powerful army in Derbyshire in aid of the northern barons, was defeated at Chesterfield by Henry son of Richard king of the Romans (15 May 50 Hen. 3 1266), fled and secreted himself under some wool in a church, but being discovered through the treachery of a female, was brought prisoner to London. On the 28th of June, the king granted to his son prince Edmund all the goods and chattels which Robert de Ferrers earl of Derby possessed on the day of the battle of Chesterfield¹²; and on the 5th of August, all castles, lands, and hereditaments of Robert de Ferrars—omitting the title of earl—to hold during pleasure¹³.

Ferrers remained in prison three years, and prior to his liberation, through the zealous mediation of friends, the king having accepted security for receiving a satisfactory fine for his misdemeanours, in Mar. 53 Hen. 3 (1269) issued a precept to his son Edmund to make restitution¹⁴. The terms which Edmund required for relinquishing his interest were so exorbitant as to be almost tantamount to a refusal. Ferrars was to pay him at one entire payment before the quind. of St. John the baptist—about two months—the enormous sum of £50,000! He prevailed on Henry son of Richard king of the Romans, William Valence earl of Pembroke, and nine other earls and barons to become his sureties, and enfeoffed them by way of counter security in all his vast possessions except Chartley castle in Staffordshire, and Holebrook in Derbyshire; but failing in the stipulated payment, as might, and probably was anticipated, they in conformity to the deed conveyed to Edmund and his heirs for ever. Ferrers made a vigorous but unsuccessful effort to regain his patrimony. He exhibited a bill in the king's bench against Edmund complaining that having offered seven years value for the redemption of his lands under the *Dictum de Kenilworth*, Edmund unjustly detained them. In 3 Edw. 1 (1274) he redeemed his plea in the same court, and Edmund being called on for his

¹ Vincent on Brooke, p. 196, 199.

² Dugd. Bar. 1, p. 259.

³ Cotton. MSS. Vesp. E. xxiij. fo. 96.

⁴ Dugd. Bar. 1, p. 260.

⁵ Hutton MSS., Cart. Antiq. B. 28.

⁶ Test. Nev. fo. 106 & 107.

⁷ Rot. Cart. 32 Hen. 3, m. 2, & 35 Hen. 3, m. 3.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ 36 Hen. 3, m. 24.

¹⁰ Class. 33 Hen. 3, m. 6 verso & m. 7.

¹¹ Vincent on Brooke, p. 208.

¹² Rot. Pat. 34 Hen. 3, m. 9.

¹³ Cardigan MSS. G. 3, "Clauz, 37 Hen. 3, m. 11."

¹⁴ Rot. Pat. 5 Dec. 50 Hen. 3, m. 40, n. 109.

¹⁵ Ibid. 19 Dec. 50 Hen. 3, m. 38, n. 102.

¹⁶ Ibid. 29 Jan. 50 Hen. 3, m. 12, n. 33.

¹⁷ Ibid. 5 Aug. 50 Hen. 3, m. 9, n. 19.

¹⁸ Ibid. 53 Hen. 3, m. 16, n. 34.

¹⁹ Vide vol. 1, p. 102.

defence, admitted Ferrers's offer, but alleged that the *Dictum* was not made when Ferrers covenanted to pay him £50,000 for the redemption of his lands, and that, on nonpayment, his sureties whom he had indemnified by feoffment of his lands, had, as they were empowered to do, conveyed the lands to him in fee. Ferrers replied, that this deed was made by him at Chippenham on the 1st of May 53 Hen. 3, when he was a prisoner there; that he had executed it through bodily fear, and was taken thence by armed men, and conveyed to Wallingford castle where he remained three weeks until prince Edward, now king, procured his liberty. Edmund rejoined, that the allegation of being a prisoner was not valid, because, after he had sealed the deed, he came before John de Chishull the chancellor and caused it to be enrolled in chancery; so that being done as in the presence of the king, his chancellor representing the king, or in the court before his officers who make record thereof, it could not be said to be done as a prisoner. Ferrers replied, that, though he did not deny sealing the deed in the presence of Chishull, it ought not to prejudice him any more than doing it in prison, for the very day he sealed it at Chippenham, Chishull came to him with the deed in a certain chamber where he was in strict custody, and demanding of him whether it was his act and deed, he then, for fear, acknowledged it; and further asking him, whether he was willing it should be enrolled in chancery, he by reason of the like fear assented. As to his being then a prisoner he referred himself to the trial of the country, or to the testimony of Chishull. And he further alleged, that his acknowledgment of the deed ought not to have the force of a record, as it was not made in open court, but in the presence of the chancellor only, who was then at a great distance from the court, and had neither roll nor clerk to record it; and that he came to him in his chamber where he was a prisoner, not as the king's chancellor, but as a private person. Edmund again answered, that there was no necessity of any trial by the country, nor the testimony of the chancellor, or the king's judgment therein, for he acknowledged that he did it in the presence of the chancellor, and that it was thereupon enrolled, &c. as above said. The court dismissed the suit, and Ferrers remained without remedy.⁴

Edmund was afterwards Earl of Lancaster and Leicester⁵; and the honor of Tutbury with the other Ferrers estates thus became eventually parcel of the duchy of Lancaster.

MANOR. There is some difficulty in adjusting the relative interests which were co-existent here in the thirteenth century. The grant of free warren to William earl Ferrers and Derby, the settlement on his son Robert's marriage, and the mortgage by that ill-fated earl, would imply that they retained it in demesne, but their rights were, I apprehend, limited to the feudal superiority; at least, a portion had been subinfeudated, for in 25 Hen. 3 (1240) *John Fitz Geoffrey*, son of Geoffrey Fitz Piers earl of Essex by his second wife, mesne lord of MOURTON, held the third of a fee in Estperry of the fees of William earl Ferrers of the honor of Tutbury⁶. The beneficiary possession of the entire estate here, if not included—as may be doubted—in this tenure, was acquired anterior to 4 Edw. 1 (1276), in which year *John* baron Fitz John, grandson of the above John, died seised of the manor of Estperry, worth £26 yearly, held of Robert Ferrers earl of Derby by the service of one fee⁷, not the third of a fee as in the Testa de Nevill⁸. His brother and heir *Richard* baron Fitz John dying without issue in 25 Edw. 1 (1297) the inheritance devolved on his coheirs, *Matilda* countess of Warwick his eldest sister; Robert baron Clifford son of Isabel eldest daughter of *Isabel de Vipont*, and *Idonea* de Leybourn youngest daughter of the said *Isabel*, his second sister; *Richard* de Burgh earl of Ulster son and heir of *Aveline* his third sister; and *Joan* wife of Theobald le Botiller or Butler his fourth sister⁹.

Matilda was wife of William Beauchamp the first earl of Warwick of that illustrious family. On a final partition between the co-parceners in 27 Edw. 1 (1299) the manors of Cherid in Wilts worth £18. 13s. 7d. yearly and Potterspury worth £39. 1s. 3d. yearly, except £10. 15s. 9d. yearly in lands and rents out of the latter manor assigned to Clifford and Leybourn, were allotted to *Matilda*¹⁰; who two years after died seised of this manor of Potters Pyrie, six virgates and a half in villenage in Yardley Gobion, and 20s. yearly rents of assize out of the fee farm of Cleley hundred, held of the heirs of the earl Ferrers as of the honor of Tutbury, by service of one pair of gilt spurs or 6d. yearly, and 5s. yearly to the king for an assart, leaving *Guy* earl of Warwick her son and heir¹¹, who in 9 Edw. 2 (1315) was certified to be lord of Est Pyrye¹², and died the same year¹³, not without suspicion of poison, in revenge for the active part he had taken in the downfall and execution of Gaveston, the king's favorite. His son *Thomas* earl of Warwick was one of the heroes who fought under the banners of Edward the black prince, and shared in the glories of Cressy and Poitiers. He had a grant of free warren in Potterspury and Jurdlee (Yardley Gobion) together with various other places in the counties of Warwick, Surrey, Buckingham, Rutland, and Worcester¹⁴; and made a settlement of this manor on himself and Catherine his wife for life, remainder to his eldest son *Guy* in tail male, remainder to his second son *Thomas* in tail male¹⁵. The earl fell a victim to the pestilence when leading an expedition against France in 43 Edw. 3 (1369), and *Guy* having pre-deceased him without male issue, he was succeeded in this manor and the earldom by *Thomas*, who inherited the martial spirit of his father. He was selected for his prudence and abilities to be governor to Richard II. during his minority, but his influence was counteracted by the dissipated and unprincipled favorites of the young monarch, who spurned his authority and dismissed him from the court. He retired to Warwick; and *Guy's* tower in the castle, and the collegiate church, were the interesting results of his taste for building. The jealousy of the king's minions was however still directed against him; having procured the murder of the duke of Gloucester, they inveigled the earl by an invitation from the king to attend a feast, where he was arrested on pretence of having associated with the duke, and sentenced to death; but on the intercession of the earl of Salisbury, his punishment was remitted to imprisonment for life.

By inquisition on his attainer in 21 Ric. 2 (1397) his Northamptonshire estate was found to consist of the manor

⁴ Dugd. Bar. 1, p. 264, & Plac. Mich. 3 Edw. 1, r. 6.

⁵ Test. Nev. fo. 107.

⁶ Eccl. 43 Edw. 1, n. 47.

⁷ Eccl. 43 Edw. 1, n. 50.

⁸ Rot. Orig. 27 Edw. 1, r. 24.

⁹ Eccl. 29 Edw. 1, n. 33.

¹⁰ Cardigan MSS. "Nom. Vill." p. 10.

¹¹ Eccl. 9 Edw. 2, n. 71.

¹² Rot. Cart. 25, 26, 27 Edw. 3, n. 23.

¹³ Eccl. 43 Edw. 3, n. 19.

¹⁴ Vide Donougho, vol. 1, p. 350.

¹⁵ Vide vol. 1, pp. 46 & 47.

and advowson of Buckby worth £25. 8s. 4d. yearly, and the manors of Moulton * worth £46. 6s. 8d. yearly, Preston Capes† worth £11. 12s. yearly, Cosgrave‡ worth £30 yearly, and Potterspury worth £34. 7s. yearly^b. *Moubrey*, earl of Nottingham and earl Marshall, the treacherous agent in the destruction of the attainted peers, shared largely in the consequent plunder. Potterspury was included in the extensive grant to him from the forfeited estates of the earls of Warwick and Arundel^c; and the day following he was elevated to the dukedom of Norfolk; but, as Being thus set up with Honor and Riches, he soon irrecoverably fell:” having been accused by the duke of Hereford, afterwards king Henry IV. a challenge ensued, a day was fixed for the solemn combat in presence of the court, when, just as the trumpets had sounded the charge, the king interposed, and, by the advice of his council, banished Hereford for ten years, and Norfolk for life. Potterspury and other manors late belonging to the duke of Norfolk attained, were in 22 Ric. 2 (1398) granted to *Edward* duke of York in tail male^d. He was however scarcely in possession, when Henry IV. gained the crown, the proceedings in the parliament of 21 Ric. 2 were annulled; and the *Richard* earl of Warwick was one of the most eminent warriors and statesmen of the fifteenth century, and was engaged in almost every military and diplomatic transaction of importance, from the commencement of the reign of Henry IV. till the 17th of Henry VI. (1439) when he died, and was succeeded by his son *Henry* earl of Warwick^e, whose rapid accumulation of honors is almost without a parallel. In less than two years he was created premier earl of England with the privilege of wearing a gold coronet to distinguish him from other peers of the same rank^f; duke of Warwick, with special precedence^g, confirmed by parliament; had a grant in reversion of the isles of Guernsey, Jersey, Alderney, and Sark in fee^h; and was crowned king of the isle of Wight by the king’s own handⁱ. His career was as short-lived as brilliant. He died in 24 Hen. 6 (1446) before he had completed his twenty-second year, leaving an only daughter and heiress *Anne*, an infant two years old^j, on whose decease in Jan. 27 Hen. 6 (1449) her splendid inheritance devolved on her aunt

Anne, wife of Richard Nevill^k, son of the Earl of Salisbury, and brother in law of her late brother, Henry duke of Warwick. In consideration of this marriage, and “of his special services about the king’s person,” the dignity of EARL OF WARWICK was in July following (1449) confirmed to him, and to Anne his wife, and her heirs general, with all preeminences enjoyed therewith by any of their ancestors^l; and in 1462 he succeeded his father in the earldom of Salisbury. His vast possessions, magnificent hospitality, and popular manners, combined with his dauntless spirit and unconquerable perseverance, gave him that preponderance in the state which enabled him to hold the balance between the contending houses of York and Lancaster, and obtained for him the well known soubriquet of “the King maker.” His overpowering influence was thrown into the scale of either party as caprice, wounded pride, or self-interest dictated; and he was slain at the battle of Barnet on the 14th of April 1471 endeavouring to replace Henry VI. on the throne, from which he had only a few years before expelled him. The widow of this great earl was reduced to a state of the greatest distress, and fled for sanctuary to Beaulieu abbey in Hampshire. She was divested by authority of parliament of the whole of the Warwick patrimony, which was settled as though she were naturally dead, on her two daughters, *Isabel* wife of George duke of Clarence, and *Anne* wife of Richard duke of Gloucester^m; afterwards king Richard III. In 3 Hen. 7 (1487) the old countess of Warwick, her daughters being then both dead, was recalled from her obscure retreat, and by a new act of parliament repealing the former one, as against all reason, conscience, and course of nature, and contrary to “Goddess Lawe and Mannys,” and in consideration of the true and faithful service and allegiance of the countess to King Henry VI. as also that she had never given any cause for her utter dishonor, restored unto the inheritance of her family, with power to alienate the same or any part thereofⁿ. This specious mark of royal favor was in reality a solemn mockery, to cover the avaricious designs of the monarch; for in the same year she was induced to convey the entire Warwick estate, consisting of the islands of Guernsey, Jersey, Alderney, and Sark, and no less than one hundred and fourteen manors in various counties, including Moulton, Buckby, Yelvertoft, Cosgrave, and Potterspury in this county, to

The King, and his issue male, remainder to herself and her heirs for ever^o. The countess was living in 5 Hen. 7 (1489) when she had an assignment of the manor of Sutton in Warwickshire from the king for her maintenance^p, to secure her from utter destitution; but henceforward the fate of this great but ill fitted heiress is involved in impenetrable obscurity.

BEAUCHAMP, EARL AND DUKE OF WARWICK; NEVILL, EARL OF WARWICK AND SALISBURY; AND PLANTAGENET, EARL OF WARWICK AND DUKE OF CLARENCE.

From Dugdale’s Baronage, with additions and corrections from public records and other authorities.

Arms. BEAUCHAMP ancient. Gules, a fess Or. BEAUCHAMP, EARL OF WARWICK. Gules, a fess between six cross crosslets Or. *Nevill*. Gules, a saltire Argent, a label gonyon Argent and Azure. PLANTAGENET, DUKE OF CLARENCE. France and England quarterly, a label Argent, charged with three cantons Gules. PLANTAGENET, DUKE OF GLOUCESTER. France and England quarterly, a label Ermine, charged with three cantons Gules.

HUGH DE BEAUCHAMP, of co. Bedford, temp. Will. conq.

SIMON DE BEAUCHAMP, ob. 4. p.	PAGANUS/PAYNE	ROBERT, d. h. GEOFFREY DE MANDEVILLE, earl of Essex, ob. Oct. 9 Steph. (1144).	MILTO DE BEAUCHAMP, of Eton, co. Bedford.	WALTER DE BEAUCHAMP, d. & CRAMP, of Elnaley, h. of Urso D’Ahi. co. Wore. steward tot. sheriff of co. Wore.
	BEAUCHAMP, of Bedford, temp. Will. 2.	BEAUCHAMP, of Aubyry, de Vere.	BEAUCHAMP, of ETON, co. Beiff.	
	BEAUCHAMP, of BED. MANDEVILLE EARL OF ESSEX. Vide AYSHO, vol. 1, p. 344.			

^a Esc. 21 Ric. 2, n. 6, c. d. ^b Rot. Pat. 28 Sept. 21 Ric. 2, p. 1, m. 5. ^c Ibid. 22 Ric. 2, p. 1, m. 6. ^d Rot. Parl. 3, p. 346. ^e Esc. 17 Hen. 6, n. 34.
^f Rot. Cart. 21 June 24 Hen. 6, n. 35. ^g Rot. Pat. 24 Hen. 6, p. 1, m. 20. ^h Let. Itin. vol. 6. ⁱ Esc. 34 Hen. 6, n. 43. ^j Esc. 27 Hen. 6, n. 34.
^k Rot. Pat. 27 Hen. 6, p. 1, m. 1, & 29 Hen. 6, p. 2, m. 23. ^l Rot. Parl. 6, p. 13 & 100; & Rot. Pat. 14 Edw. 4, p. 1, m. 7. ^m Rot. Parl. 6, p. 351.
ⁿ Dugd. Bar. 1, p. 307, & Hutton MSS. “Fin. Hill. 3 Hen. 7.” ^o Rot. Parl. 5 Hen. 7, m. 34. ^p Vide p. 130.
^q Vide vol. 1, p. 47. ^r Vide vol. 1, p. 426.

Potterspurp was annexed to the honor of Grafton on its erection in 33 Hen. 8 (1541); and one of the sectional courts is held here for Potterspurp and Furtho.

The manor of Potterspurp, parcel of Warwick lands, was included in the extensive grant by king Charles II. detailed under GRAFTON*; and has subsequently descended to George-Henry 4th duke of Grafton, K.G. the present proprietor (1835).

POTTERSURP PARK. William de Ferrers, earl of Derby, had a licence in 14 Hen. 3 (1230) to enclose his wood of Pyrie and convert it into a park^a. In 29 Edw. 1 (1300) Matilda countess of Warwick died seised of the manor of Potters Pyrie and an enclosed park with beasts of chase, underwood, and herbage^b. The act of resumption in 1 Hen. 7 (1485) specially excepted the grant to Thomas Philipp of the offices of bailiff of Moresend and Estpyre and bailiff of the lordship and park of Potterspurp for life^c. The park continued vested in the crown till king Charles I. granted it out in Jan. 1643-4 to sir George Strode and Arthur Duck, LL.D. in fee^d; and its subsequent descent has been already traced down to sir John Mordaunt, bart., M.P. the present proprietor (1835).[†]

Pury Park, or Grafton Park, as it was then more commonly designated, was the seat of John Sharp, esq. M.P. eldest son of the archbishop of York. It has since degenerated into a farm house, known as Pury Lodge, but it still retains traces of its former consequence, and is approached from the Chester road through a fine avenue of lime trees.

THE VILLAGE is about five miles from Towcester. It lies on a gentle descent to the north, and is skirted on the south by the Chester road. In 8 Hen. 3 (1224) Hugh de Nevill was commanded to let Robert de Ferrers have twenty couples for building out of the forest [of Whittlebury] where it would be least to the injury of the forest, for the repair of his houses in Pirie^f. In the time of Bridges it was 'a village of near four score houses^g'. The population has considerably increased, owing principally to the introduction of the lace trade. By the census of 1801, it contained 139 houses and 698 inhabitants; by that of 1811, 153 houses, and 779 inhabitants; by that of 1821, 159 houses and 845 inhabitants, or the entire parish, including Yardley Globion, 1410 inhabitants; and by the census of 1831, 173 houses, and 950 inhabitants, exclusive of Yardley. The annual quota of land tax for Potterspurp (exclusive of Yardley) is £135. 1s. 3^d. at 4s. in the £. The estimated value of real property as assessed to the property tax of 10 per cent. for the year ending (April 1815) amounted to £1811. The poor's rates for the year ending Easter 1832, raised £1102. 8s. 6^d. at 15s. 6^d. in the £. The wake is kept on the Sunday after St. Nicholas.

ADVOWSON. The tithes of the lordship of Pyrie, with one villain, formed part of the original endowment of Tutbury priory in Staffordshire, by Henry de Ferrers the domesday lord of this vill^h; and were confirmed by his grandson earl Robert de Ferrers, junior, towards the close of the reign of Stephen, or the beginning of Henry II.ⁱ This grant, I presume, carried with it the advowson. In 1219 the abbot and convent of St. Peter super Dinam in the diocese of Sais in France presented the rector^j, having, most probably, obtained the advowson from the prior and convent of Tutbury; to whom a few years after they consigned, at a reserved rent, their cell at Wolston in Warwickshire, except the right of presentation to the churches belonging to it^k. The revenues of the alien priories were seized by the king of England during war with France; and in 18 Ric. 2 (1394) the prior and convent of St. Peter super Dinam by deed reciting the frequency of these seizures, and that even in time of peace the distance and consequent expenses absorbed the profits of their English possessions, in consideration of 2400 francs in gold of French coin, to be employed in purchasing rents and possessions nearer and more profitable, conveyed them, including the advowson of Potters Pirie, to the prior and convent of Carthusians recently founded by the king at Shortley in Coventry, and their successors for ever^l. 'm Upon a vacancy of this benefice in 1414, 2 Hen. V. the king, as seized of the revenues belonging to the priories alien, the Prior and convent of St. Anne near Coventry, and the Prior and convent of Tutbury in Staffordshire, laid claim to the presentation. But the cause being brought into the court of King's Bench was decided in favour of the Carthusians.' Bridges erroneously states that 'upon the dissolution of the monasteries the impropriation fell to the crownⁿ, and was granted by King Henry VIII. to John Clerk, and his heirs for ever, for the service of taking Lewis de Orleans, Duke of Longueville at the siege of Terrouenne. This John Clerk was the third son of William Clerk, of Willoughby in Warwickshire, and was knighted upon this occasion. He was buried at Tame in Oxfordshire, where is a monument and inscription to his memory. His descendants were afterwards reduced very low, and one of them sold the impropriation to Sir Benjamin Bathurst from whom it came to the present Lord Bathurst, who now [about 1720] hath it in possession.' The patent is not quoted; and Fuller, one of the authorities cited, so far from corroborating the grant, after observing that sir John was rewarded by the King with an honourable addition to his coat armour, a sinister canton Azure, thereon a demi-ram mounting Argent, armed Or, between two fleurs de lis of the Last, over all a dexter baton Argent; adds 'I must not conceal that I have read in a most excellent Manuscript (viz.) the View of Staffordshire made by Sampson Erdeswicke, Esquire; That one William Stamford in that County, had good land given him therein, for taking the Duke of Longvile prisoner August the 16 in the fifth of King Henry the eight. History will not allow two Dukes of Longvile captives, and yet I have a belief for them both, that Sir John Clarke and William Stamford were causa sociæ of his Captivity, and the King remunerated them both, the former with an addition of Honour, and the latter with an accession of Estate n.' In fact, the impropriation, and advowson of this vicarage were not granted out till 6 Edw. 6 (1552), when they were purchased with other hereditaments in different counties to the yearly value of £85. 7s. 6^d. for the sum of £1421. 8s. 5^d. by

* Rot. Cart. 14 Hen. 3, p. 2, m. 3.

^b Esc. 29 Edw. 1, n. 33.

^c Rot. Parl. vol. 6, p. 359.

^d Pat. 24 May, 1 Hen. 8, p. 1.

^e Pat.

5 Jan. 19 Car. 1.

^f Rot. Claus. 18 Aug. 8 Hen. 3.

^g Br. 1, p. 115.

^h Mon. Ang. 1, p. 354.

ⁱ Reg. Hug. Wells, Ep. Linc.

^j Dugd. Wars. (ed. 1765) p. 37.

^k Ibid. p. 59.

^l Br. 1, p. 317.

^m Reg. Paroch. See Fuller's

Worthies in Northamptonshire p. 299.

ⁿ Vide p. 168.

[†] Vide GRAFTON PARK, p. 172.

Thomas Reve and George Cotton^a, two speculators in crown lands, who appear to have disposed of their interest here to *William Clarke*, gent. by whom the vicar was presented in 1555, and whose widow Anne Clarke presented in 1568. William Clarke, father of sir John, was the common ancestor of the Clerkes of Watford, Kingsthorp, West Haddon, Guilsborough, and Croughton in this county, and of other branches in the counties of Warwick, Leicester, and Kent. William Clarke, the impropiator and patron, was derived from a totally distinct stock, being son of Richard Clarke, of Holdsworth in Devonshire. He was sergeant at arms to kings Henry VIII. and Edward VI. and queen Mary. The pedigree of this family was entered in the visitations of Hervey in 1566 and of Vincent in 1618. Robert Clarke, great-grandson of William, was impropiator and patron in 1655^b; but there is a tradition that the last of the Clarkes was reduced to a state of pauperism, and buried at the expence of the parish. Sir Benjamin Bathurst, of PAULERSPURY, was in possession of the impropriation and advowson of the vicarage in 1692; and in April 1730 his son Allen lord Bathurst sold the manor or reputed manor, and the rectory and parsonage appropriate of Potterspury, otherwise East Pury, with all tithes arising there and in Yardley Gobion, subject to certain yearly payments, and reserving the advowson of the vicarage, to Annabella Brydges, widow, and her son Robert Brydges, esq.^c The hon. Annabella Brydges was granddaughter of sir Robert Atkins, lord chief baron of the exchequer, and in June 1705 married the honorable and reverend Henry Brydges, of Adlestrop in Gloucestershire, brother of James first duke of Chandos. He died in May 1728; and she survived till August 1763, when James Brydges, esq. the only brother and presumptive heir at law of the said Robert, against whom a commission of luncacy had been taken out in 1746, was appointed committee of his person and estate; and in conjunction with his sisters Annabella Inwood, of St. Mary-le-Bone in Middlesex, widow, Mary Adeane, and Henrietta Kearney, of Twickenham in the same county, widows, being the only next of kin of their brother, obtaining an act of parliament in 12 Geo. 3 (1772) for the sale of his estates, the Potterspury property was purchased by Augustus-Henry 3d duke of Grafton^d, from whom it has passed to his son George-Henry the present duke.

THE ADVOWSON OF THE VICARAGE has lineally descended from sir Benjamin Bathurst, to Henry George 4th earl Bathurst, the present patron.

THE RECTORY was rated in the taxations of 1254 (38 Hen. 3)^e, and of 1291 (20 Edw. 1)^f at 16 marks £10. 13s. 4d. *per ann.* In 10 Hen. 7 (1494) the prior and convent of Carthusians in Coventry obtained a licence from the crown to appropriate the churches or rectories of Potters Piry in Northamptonshire and Egmond in Shropshire, on condition of their praying daily for the good estate of the king, his mother, his queen, and their children; and of their celebrating a mass of the Holy Ghost every week during the king's life, and a solemn yearly *obit* for his soul after his departure hence^g. At the ecclesiastical survey of 1535 (26 Hen. 8) the rectory was demised by the prior and convent for £18 *per ann.*^h In 1665 Richard Grenville, of Wootton Underwood in Buckinghamshire, esq. and Edward Grenville, of Foscoate in the same county, esq. conveyed to Gabriel Rigby, of Cosgrave, yeoman, certain lands in Cosgrave and Forthoe, parcel of the glebe lands belonging to the rectory or parsonage appropriate of Potterspuryⁱ. The commissioners of inclosure allotted 320a. 0r. 13p. to the duke of Grafton in lieu of glebe land and the impropriate tithes of Potterspury and Yardley Gobion.

THE VICARAGE is in the deanry of Preston. No official ordination of the vicarage is known, but in the ecclesiastical survey of 1535 (26 Hen. 8) it was rated at £8. 6s. *per ann.* without any reprisals^j. The parliamentary commissioners in 1655 certified Potterspury to be a parsonage and vicarage impropriate belonging to Mr. Robert Clerke worth £120 *per ann.*; and that the cure was supplied by way of donative by Mr. Joseph Nevill, who received for his pay £18. 6s. 8d. yearly from the impropiator^k. It is a discharged living, returned under the act 5 Anne (1707) to be of the clear yearly value of £31. 12s.; and in the return of livings under £150 *per ann.* made to the governors of queen Anne's bounty in 1809, the bishop of Peterborough certified it to be of the yearly value of £75. 11s. 8d. arising from composition for tithes, augmentation, money in the funds, bequest, and surplice fees. The vicar, in right of his church, receives £18. 6s. 8d. *per ann.* from the duke of Grafton charged on the impropriate rectory; a bequest of £3 *per ann.* under the will of Cuthbert Ogle, esq. now reduced to £1. 10s. *per ann.*; and of £10 *per ann.* under the will of Edmund Arnold, esq. of Furtho^l. The vicarage has been three times augmented with queen Anne's bounty; in 1722 with £200 to meet a legacy of £200 from Mrs. Joanne Alford; in 1813 with £600 by lot; and in 1833 with a parliamentary grant of £200 to meet a benefaction of £50 from George-Henry duke of Grafton, £50 from the rev. Gowen Evans the incumbent, and £100 from Mrs. Pyncombe's trustees. These benefactions are now vested in 46a. 3r. 22p. of land in Paulerspury parish, and in £892 3 per cents. reduced. The vicarage house is north of the church on the opposite side of the road.

RECTORS. *Robert.*

Silvester de Eversden, subdeacon, by the abbot and convent of St. Peter super Dinam, 1219. He was afterwards lord chancellor of England, and bishop of Carlisle^m.

Ralph de Chaddestone.

Mast. William de Hanover, subdeacon, 21 July 1274.

Geoffrey de Welleford, chaplain, 11 Nov. 1313.

Richard de Brampton, priest, 18 Nov. 1321. He was vicar of Earls Barton from 1323 to 1329.

Mast. Gilbert de Middelton, jun. 13 Mar. 1324.

William de Kesteven.

Henry de Wynecryk, priest, 27 May 1344.

William Knight de Eglton, priest, 25 Nov. 1345.

William de Rothewell, priest, 27 Aug. 1348.

^a Pat. 27, Nov. 6. Edw. 6. p. 3. and Strype's Memorials, vol. 2, p. 362.

^b Cotton MSS. Nero D. x. fo. 180.

^c Tax. Eccl. p. 32.

^d Dugd. Warw. (ed. 1763) p. 139. "Pat. 10 Hen. 7, m. 3."

^e Act of Parl. 12 Geo. 3, c. 78.

^f Augm. Off.

^g Mansel evidences.

^h Lambeth MSS. vol. 20.

ⁱ Vide p. 137.

^j Vide EVANSON, vol. 1, p. 363.

John de Hatton, by the king, 21 Feb. 1358.

William de Gadesby, priest, by the prior of Tutbury as procurator of the abbot and convent of St. Peter super Dinam, 19 July 1366.

John de Middleton, priest, by the king, 30 Mar. 1383; already noticed under Chipping Warden.

Henry Maspas, clerk, 24 Apr. 1390. He was vicar of Stanford from 1410 to 1415.

John Roderham, priest, 20 June 1390.

Nicholas Wymbyshe, clerk, by the prior and convent of the house of St. Anne of the Carthusian order near Coventry, 28 Nov. 1414.

Mast. Richard Wallis, clerk, 29 Mar. 1419. He was also vicar of Ravensthorp.

Mast. William Blakamore, priest, 8 May 1424.

Henry Sharp.

Mast. John Thurston, LL.B. 10 Mar. 1455. He has previously occurred under Bugbrook.

Mast. John Frygby, priest, S. T. B. 31 July 1457, already noticed under Brampton.

Mast. Walter Bate, S. T. B. 18 Nov. 1457.

Mast. John Lane, 17 Dec. 1479.

Thomas Rawlins, priest, 5 Aug. 1482. He held at different periods five benefices in this county, and has already occurred under Boughton and Grafton Regis.

VICARS. *Sir William Beley*, priest, first vicar, 14 Mar. 1499. He occurs in 1535, and

Sir John Suckling was presented by John Bradbury, gent. and instituted 1 June 1543, on the death of the last incumbent. He has been previously noticed under Furtho, and on his resignation

Thomas Fulewell, who has also occurred under Furtho, was inst. 29 Oct. 1555, on the presentation of William Clerke, gent.

Richard Holton, was presented by Anne Clarke, widow (of the last patron) and inst. 28 July 1568 on the death of the last incumbent.

Humphrey Wheatley was inst. 8 June 1697, on the presentation of the queen.

Paul Boughton was presented by Christopher Clarke, gent. and inst. 25 Feb. 1607, and occurs in 1636.

'William Stilton, occurs 1638.'

Joseph Nevill occurs in the parliamentary commissioners' report in 1655. Dr. Calamy has transposed the incumbents of Paulerspury and Potterspury, placing Nevill by the name of Nevill under the former, and Cooper under the latter*. Bishop Kennett in correcting this mistake observes, neither was Nevill minister of Paulerspury, nor a nonconformist, but lived and died in the church. He had indeed a good living at Lechamsted in Buckinghamshire, which he lost for some immoralities, and was afterwards vicar of Potterspury: some of the ancient inhabitants of which village informed the bishop that Nevill was incumbent there in 1662, and that he conform'd to keep his poor benefice of £30 a year, and taught school^b. "Mr. Joseph Nevill, Minister of Potterspury," was buried 29 Feb. 1691^c, and

Thomas Raine was inst. 3 Feb. 1692, on the presentation of sir Benjamin Bathurst. He was buried here 12 June 1707^d, and

Richard Rogers, of New coll. Oxf. A.M. was presented by lady Frances Bathurst, and inst. 27 Oct. following. He resigned, and

Henry Smyth was inst. 16 Mar. 1708, on the presentation of the same patron.

Edward Cooke, of Corpus Christi coll. Camb. A.M. occurs in 1722; on whose resignation

Robert Harding, of King's coll. Camb. A.M. and not of Exeter coll. Oxf. A.M. as erroneously stated under Ashton, was presented by Allen lord Bathurst, and inst. 20 Mar. 1729. He published a fast sermon in 1756. He was buried here 18 Apr. 1767^e, and was succeeded by his son

Robert Harding, already noticed under Alderton and Grafton, and Ashton. He was buried here 13 July 1790, and

John Hellins, of Trin. coll. Camb. B.D. 1800, was inst. 2 Sept. 1790, on the presentation of Henry earl Bathurst. Prior to obtaining this benefice he had been curate of Constantine in Cornwall, and of Greens Norton. Though exemplary in the discharge of his parochial duties, he was most distinguished by his scientific attainments. Whilst curate of Norton in 1785 he issued proposals for publishing "Mathematical Essays on several subjects, being new improvements and discoveries in Mathematics," which appeared in a 4to vol. in 1788; and in the meantime in 1787 he published "The young Algebraist's companion." In 1802 he edited "Analytical Institutions, originally written in Italian by Donna Maria Gaetana Agnesi, Translated into English by professor Colson of Cambridge," 2 vols. 4to. His contributions to periodical publications were both numerous and valuable. His papers to the Philosophical Transactions commenced so early as 1780 with a "Theorem for computing Logarithms" and continued to 1802. He was elected F.R.S. in 1796, and the Transactions of that society contain no less than nine of his communications, the last of which in 1799 "on a method of computing with increased facility the planetary perturbations," gained him the Copley gold medal. He furnished also various Mathematical articles to the British Critic from 1795 to 1814.

To add to the eulogium addressed to the Royal Society by their president Mr. Davies Gilbert at the anniversary succeeding Mr. Hellins' death, "he was one of those extraordinary men, who, deprived of early advantages, have elevated themselves by the force of genius and of industry, to a level above most persons blessed with a regular education." "At one time he computed for the Nautical Almanac. He afterwards assisted at Greenwich. And what is now perhaps almost unknown, he furnished the late Mr. Wyndham with all the calculations and tables on which that gentleman brought forward his new military system, as minister of war, in 1806. Mr. Hellins applied himself with great industry to some of the most useful branches of pure mathematics. Retired to a small living in Northamptonshire Mr. Hellins became a pattern of philosophical calmness and content.

"Far from the madding world's ignoble strife
His sober wishes never learnt to stray."

He married in Nov. 1794 miss Ann Bruck, of North Tawton, Devonshire, who survived him but a short time, and by whom he left an only son. He was buried here 9 April 1827^f, and

Gowen Evans, of Jesus coll. Oxf. A.B. was inst. 17 May 1827, on the presentation of Henry earl Bathurst.

* Br. 1, p. 318.

* Dr. Calamy's Contin. p. 644.

* Kennett's Reg. p. 807.

* Par. Reg.

* Br. 1, p. 317.

THE REGISTERS in the time of Bridges began 'in 1597'. The present registers of baptisms commence in 1674, of marriages in 1681, and of burials in 1679; they are very irregularly kept; and all the leaves in No. 2 from 1741 to 1767 have been cut out, in which state Mr. Hellins has made a memorandum that he received this book 16 Mar. 1793.

THE CHURCH, dedicated to St. Nicholas, stands at the north end of the village, and consists of a tower, containing five bells, nave, north and south aisles, south porch, and chancel. The tower is supported at the sides with heavy buttresses. The windows are varied, but none are earlier than the fifteenth century. The tower is 17 ft. 4 in. long by 13 ft. 2 in. wide; the nave 51 ft. 2 in. long by 19 ft. 6 in. wide; the north aisle 70 ft. long by 18 ft. 4 in. wide; the south aisle 42 ft. long by 13 ft. 5 in. wide; and the chancel 37 ft. 6 in. long by 19 ft. wide. The church is entered from the south side by a descent of six steps: it has been partially new pewed; and a gallery was erected at the west end in 1760. The font is octagonal; the shaft has arched tracery, and the upper compartments quatrefoils and other ornaments. The nave is divided from the north aisle by five arches; one of the western pillars is circular with a Norman capital, another octangular with a capital of plain mouldings; the two eastern arches are lower and smaller, supported by a central octangular pillar with a plain capital, and open into that portion of the aisle which formerly contained two chapels or altars dedicated to St. Thomas and the Virgin Mary. The south aisle is divided from the nave by three arches on octangular pillars with plain capitals. Between the nave and chancel are traces of a rood loft over an ancient wooden screen.

MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS.

NAVE. I. On the south wall on a black marble tablet:

In Memory of
JOSEPH SCRIVENER, Gent.
and Elizabeth his wife
whose remains are here interred.
He departed this life
April 21st 1808,
Aged 75 years.

She departed this life
Jan'y the 1st 1780
Aged 41 Years.

Slabs for:

1. Richard Scrivener,
Richard his son 31 May 1763, æt. 69.
2. William Scrivener, 1 Jan. 1707, æt. 33.
J. S. 1808. E. S. 1780.

NORTH AISLE. II. Over the porch, on a small neat tablet of white marble:

IN MEMORY OF
THE REV^d JOHN HELLINS, B.D. & F.R.S.
UPWARDS OF 36 YEARS VICAR OF THIS PARISH, WHO DIED APRIL 5th 1827,
AGED 78 YEARS.

OF ANNE HELLINS HIS WIDOW, WHO DIED JUNE 3rd 1827, AGED 72.
OF ANNE, DAUGHTER OF ROBERT AND ELIZABETH MEDLAND, OF NORTH TAWTON, DEVON,
WHO DIED APRIL 15th 1823, AGED 19.
THEIR REMAINS ARE INTERRED IN THE CHURCH YARD AT A SHORT DISTANCE FROM THIS SPOT.

NORTH AISLE OF CHAPEL. Slabs for:

3. In
*The Grave the wicked cannot oppress
For there the weary are at rest
Here the Reverend ROBERT HARDING rests
Waiting for the resurrection of the just
When tears and mourning shall be turned to joy
Then sorrow and sighing shall flee away.*
He was Vicar of this Parish
near forty Years
and departed this life
April the 15th 1767
Aged 61.

4. Mrs Kent d. of Rev^d Mr Harding Vicar of this Parish
& w. of Mr Kent, 31 Mar. 1762 æt. 31.
5. Mrs Harding d. of Henry Huddleston of co.
Camb. 30 Mar. 1745 æt. 46.
6. Thomas Kirby, ob. 4 Apr. 1834 æt. 74.
Amelia Kirby, ob. 1 Feb. 1833 æt. 71.

SOUTH AISLE. III. On a marble tablet surmounted by arms, quarterly, 1 & 4. Ar. three Torteauxes each charged with a fleur de lis O. on a chief Az. a bugle horn O. between two pheons Ar. Barrow, 2 & 3. Ar. a lion rampant O. Lloyd.

NEAR
this Marble

are deposited
the Remains of
JOHN BARROW, Gent.
with those of ANNE
his Relict.

He } 1 Oct. 1744,
 } Aged 63.
She } dyed { 31 Mar. 1757,
 } Aged 66.

Examples in each state of life
Friend, Husband, Father, Mother, Wife.
This Monument was
erected to their Memory
by Mr JOHN EASTON,
of Northampton.

IV. At the east end, placed upon an altar tomb of black and white marble, is a tablet of black marble within a freestone frame, surmounted by arms, helmet, and crest, quarterly, 1 & 4. Ar. a fess between three crescents G. Oyle, 2 & 3. O. an orle Az. Bertram. Crest, out of a ducal coronet G. a bull's head O. armed Az.

HERE LIETH BURIED THE BODY OF CUTHBERT
OYLE ESQUIER. HE WAS LIEUTENANT OF
WHITTLEWOOD FOREST AND LIVED IN THE
SAID FOREST 42 YEARS. HE GAVE THREE
POUNDES A YEAR FOR EVER TOWARDS THE
MAINTENANCE OF A PREACHER AT POTTER-

SPURY AND THREE POUND A YEARE FOR
EVER TO BUY BREAD TO BE WEEKLY DISTRI-
BUTED AMONG THE POORE PEOPLE OF
POTTERS PURY AND YEARDLY GORION. HE
WAS ALSO A GOOD BENEFACTOR TO THE POOR
PEOPLE OF NORTHAMTON AND TO THE POORE
THAT DWELT NEARE ABOUT HIM. HE WAS
AGED 76 YEARES AND DEPTED THIS LIFE
THE 25 DAY OF AUGUST ANO D^NI 1633.

THIS MONUMENT WAS ERECTED AND
SETT UP THE 24 DAY OF JUNE 1634
AT THE COST AND CHARGE OF
BEATERIX HIS WIFE NOW LIVING.

7. Below the last monument is a slab with a brass figure about 1ft. 4in. long of a female with her hands elevated and joined. She has on a small hat with turned up brim, and a twisted band; quilled ruff; and the front of her dress embroidered. Arms, mantling, helmet, and crest: quarterly, 1 & 4, (Ar.) a dexter hand couped and erect, within a border engrailed (S.) crescent for difference, *Mandley* or *Manley*, 2 & 3, () a bend Erm. Crest. On a wreath, a man's head full-faced, couped at the shoulders, and wreathed round the forehead.

HERE LIETH THE BODYE OF ANNE OGLE THE WIFE OF
CUTHBERT OGLE LEUTENANT OF THE FOREST OF
WHITTLEWOOD WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE THE XXIX
OF MAY AN. DOM. 1616, AND BEARETH THE ARMS OF THE
MANDELEYS OUT OF WHICH HOUSE SHE DESCENDED.

8. On one of the steps from the south porch:

George Goodman, esq. late of Wakefield Lodge, 29 April 1673.

CHANCEL. V. Within the altar rails, on the north side, is an uniscribed altar tomb with a black marble covering slab, over which on a black circular-headed marble tablet within a freestone frame:

THE INDEPENDENTS have a society here which was first established in 1690 by Mr. *Michael Harrison*, who had previously been accustomed to preach in the church at Caversfield near Bicester in Oxfordshire; but, being now desirous of forming a dissenting congregation, selected this village for the field of his labours. Br. Willis in his history of Caversfield observes the register "is kept very ill, and there are several entries made by one *Michael Harrison*, a Dissenting Teacher, who belonged to the Presbyterian Family of the *Bards*. This Harrison printed a Discourse or Sermon or two in which he styles himself Minister of Caversfield, Bucks, Anno 1692(?). He had some children born here." James Durant, A.M. was instituted vicar in 1679, and the next who occurs is William Hodson, A.B. in 1704^f. It is doubtful therefore whether Harrison was strictly a clergyman of the establishment, or officiated without episcopal institution under the sanction of his relative the patron, who was a nonconformist; and if so, it would not have been an isolated case, for the celebrated Dr. Calamy in his auto-biography says "I was at Bicester, and assisted old Mr. Cornish who was indisposed, at his meeting house in the morning, and afterwards walked over to Casfield [Caversfield] at a mile distance, the Dissenters in a body bearing me company. There I preached in the public church in the afternoon, and had a crowded auditory from the country round."

Mr. Harrison soon collected a congregation, and premises at the back of a house having been fitted up for public worship at the people's expence, his friend Dr. Calamy preached the opening sermon.

MINISTERS. *Michael Harrison* settled at Pury towards the close of 1691, and remained here eighteen years. Prior to quitting Caversfield he published, "Christ's righteousness, a believers surest plea for eternal life; in several sermons on Rom. iii. 22." 1691. 8vo. "Substance of several sermons on Ps. xlv. 24, 25." 1691. 8vo. "The Believer's marriage with Christianity; on Matth. xxij. 1, 2, &c." 1691. 8vo. During his residence here, appeared "Infant baptism, God's Ordinance; or clear proofs that all the children of believing parents are in the covenant of grace, and have as much right to baptism, the now seal of the covenant, as the children of the Jews had to circumcision the then seal of the covenant; by Michael Harrison, minister of the gospel at Potterspurty." 8vo. A Mr.

HERE LYETH Y^e
BODY OF GABRIELL CLARKE
LATE OF POTTERS PURIE IN Y^e COUNTY
OF NORTHAMPT^s GENT. WHO DYED A
BATCHELOR Y^e XIII DAY OF APRIL ANO D^NI
1624 BEING OF Y^e AGE OF 72 YEARES &
3 MONTHS, WHO GAVE X^{li} IN MONEY TO BE PUT
FORTH YEARELY FOR EVER & Y^e USE THEREOF TO BE
BESTOWED UPON Y^e REPAYRE OF THIS PARISHIE
CHURCH, & ONE ANNUITIE OF XL^s OUT OF HIS
MILLS CALLED WILLIAT MILLS IN Y^e SAID COUNTY
OF NORTHAMPT^s TO BE PAID QUARTERLY UPPO'
THIS HIS GRAVESTONE TO X OF THE POO-
-REST PEOPLE OF POTTERS PURIE FOR EVER,
& DYVERS OTHER LEGACIES TO PIOUS
& CHARITABLE USES AS APPEARth BY HIS WILL.

VI. On the south wall, on a plain tablet:

In Memory of
JOHN MEAL,
late Gardiner
to his Grace the Duke of
GRAFTON

whom he served faithfully
at Wakefield Lodge
sixteen years.

He died the 28th of June 1742,
aged 45.

9. Mrs Sophia Bedford w. of Thomas^b B. gent. 30 Aug.

1775, et. 53.

Thomas Bedford, steward to the duke of Grafton, 16 May
1783, et. 63.

10. Elizabeth, w. of Thomas Bacchus, 23 Mar. 1698, et. 48.

11. Ann, d. of John and Ann Roper, 1 Oct. 1818, et. 19.

Collins wrote an answer; to which Harrison replied; and Dr. Russell published a rejoinder. "A Gospel Church described in its Author, names, head, matter, form, and end. Wherein are various cases concerning the ministry, ordination, admission of members, discipline, schism; whether laymen may preach and be heard without sin. With many other things conducing to give a right information on the nature of a church are handled, &c. To which is added a discourse upon the Lord's supper from Numb. ix. 13; with a sermon preached on the 55th of Isaiah, v. 1, 13; with a sermon preached on the 26th of May 1700; also xij divine hymns compiled for the Lord's supper and the Lord's Day. By Michael Harrison in Potters Purty." 1700. 12mo. In 1709 he accepted an invitation to the independent chapel at

^a Browne Willis's Bucks, p. 167.

^f Ibid. p. 168.

^g Calamy's Life (1829), vol. 1, p. 300.

St. Ives in Huntingdonshire, where he died in Jan. 1726.

His successor here was

Isaac Robinson, who either resigned or died within a few years, and was succeeded in 1712 by

William Bushnell, who had just completed his studies under the rev. John Moore, of Bridgewater in Somersetshire. He raised a large society, chiefly of the lower classes, but refused to quit them for a more wealthy congregation at Bristol, and having exhausted his private patrimony in relieving their wants, continued till Michaelmas 1729, when he removed to Andover in Hampshire; from thence to Nailsworth in Gloucestershire; and died in 1744, having a few months before been appointed pastor of the chapel at Maid Lane in Southwark. He was related to Dr. Boulton, archbishop of Armagh, who greatly esteemed him for his piety, and offered him preferment in the church, if he would conform.

Samuel Tailor was chosen pastor in 1735. On his removal to Long Melford in Suffolk,

John Heywood, then of Lincoln, was invited and ordained pastor 25 Sept. 1740. The ordination hymn, and between forty and fifty others which he composed for the use of his congregation, were published by him the same year under the title of "Hymns or Spiritual Songs," 8vo. Prefixed to them is a pastoral address "to those that attend upon my ministry who dwell in Potters Pury, Yardley Gubion, Paulers Pury, Heavecoate, Towcester, Handley, Cawcott, Shuttle-Anger, Heartwell, Cosgrove, Alderton, Old Stratford, Dunsanger, Wicken in the county of Northampton, and in Stony-Stratford, Hanslope, Castle-Thrupp, Leckhamstead, and Lovefield [Luf-]field in the county of Bucks; and to those who have occasionally attended my Lord's-Days Evening Lectures at Towcester and Hanslope." Few men were perhaps better qualified by zeal and bodily activity to preside over a congregation formed of individuals residing in no less than nineteen different towns and hamlets. In this expanded circle he laboured with great success for many years; preaching at Pury once every Sunday, besides catechising the children, and then, after delivering an evening lecture at Stony Stratford, or Towcester, or some of the neighbouring villages, he usually spent the whole week going from house to house, visiting and praying with his hearers, and preaching wherever a place was open to receive him. On these pastoral excursions he rode an old grey horse, and, generally, with his waistcoat open, and the long ends of his white cravat flying in the wind. As long as he possibly could, he continued his journeys; when compelled to relinquish them he continued to preach at home; and when unable to ascend the pulpit, or even to walk into the meeting, he was carried into the assembly, and being placed in his chair in one of the aisles exhorted his people. He died 1 June 1778.

In 1760 he published a funeral sermon on the death of king George II. entitled "A succession of wise and good kings the distinguished smile of heaven, and the exalted happiness of Great Britain, considered and improved." His loyalty, love of literature, simplicity of heart, and eccentricity of manners, attracted the notice of the neighbouring nobility; the duke of Grafton condescended to call on him, and gave him free access to his library at Wakefield; and earl Temple frequently invited him to Stowe. Soon after the accession of king George III. in 1760, the dissenting ministers of the three denominations, as is usual on such occasions, went up to the throne with an address of congratulation. Mr. Heywood, who was

personally known to several, accompanied them; but when he came into the royal palace at St. James's, he happened to see there his friend earl Temple, with whom he immediately entered into conversation. Nothing could equal the mortification of the London ministers, when they saw Mr. Heywood enter the room at Dr. Williams's library, where they were assembled to go to the royal palace, nor their surprise at finding that he was the only one of their number who had a friend at court; for their plain-looking country brother had no sooner entered the presence chamber than he was recognised by earl Temple. Whilst he was conversing with the noble earl, the dissenting ministers were admitted to his majesty's presence, kissed hands, and were in the act of returning; which being perceived by earl Temple, he suggested to him the danger of losing the opportunity he came to enjoy; he instantly turned round, and passing by his brethren who were returning, called out to the king, as he retired from the throne, "Stop, please your majesty, stop, I have come all the way from Potterspury to kiss your majesty's hand, and I hope I shall be allowed the honour." The king, with all that excellence of disposition for which he was remarkable turned round and presented his hand: Mr. Heywood gave it two or three hearty kisses, adding, God bless your majesty, and I hope you will make a good king.

It is, perhaps, deserving of remark, that Wilson in his "History and Antiquities of Dissenting Churches" has confounded this John Heywood with Samuel Hayward minister of Silver Street chapel in London.

John Goode, a student of Newport Pagnell academy, officiated during Mr. Heywood's last illness and after his death, but was not ordained pastor till Oct. 1782. In 1780 the old meeting house, which had originally been a barn or out-house, was pulled entirely down, and with it the old house adjoining in which all the ministers had resided, and the present chapel and house for the minister were erected on the same site. Mr. Goode's connection with Pury closed in 1794, when he transferred his services to the chapel in White row, Spitalfields, London. From this period the congregation remained eleven years without a settled pastor. The members from Towcester and Hanslope seceded, and formed themselves into separate societies; and the congregation which was in a state of progressive declension, was supplied in the absence of invited candidates, by the Newport Pagnell students: at length Mr. Greathead—the well-known friend of Cowper—recommended

Isaac Gardner, of Newport in Essex, who was accordingly invited, and came to reside here in 1805. During his ministry the members from Stony Stratford seceded and became a distinct society. His state of health compelled him to resign in 1819; and he was succeeded in 1823 by

James Slye, a Newport Pagnell student, who was ordained here in June 1825.

In 1831 he published "A brief narrative of the rise and progress of the Independent church at Potterspury now under the pastoral care of the rev. James Slye, including some account of the congregations in Towcester, Stony Stratford, and Hanslope formerly connected with Potterspury." 12mo. From this little volume the above account of this religious society has been principally abstracted.

THE MEETING HOUSE stands at the entrance of the village from Yardley. It is a neat building of stone 45 ft. long by 30 ft. wide. It is peaved, and has galleries on three sides.

CLELEY HUNDRED.

At the side of the pulpit is a small marble tablet:

Sacred to the Memory of
The Rev. ISAAC GARDNER
(16 years *Pastor of this Church*)
obit 21 Oct. 1821, æt. 67.

Let Gabriel take his Golden Harp
And strike the trembling lyre;
However high his strains shall rise
My Notes shall still be higher.

The Chapel register commences in 1730.

BENEFACTIONS. (Vide p. 117). **PEAKE'S AND CLARKE'S GIFTS.** The yearly sum of 30s. given by William PEAKE to buy green gowns for two poor widows one year, and two another year, is paid as a rent charge out of an estate at Puxley in the parishes of Cosgrave and Passenham, belonging to the duke of Grafton, and is expended in purchasing materials for two gowns to poor widows selected by the minister and churchwardens. The cost of the materials and making up, generally exceeds the rentcharge, and the deficiency is supplied by the duke's agent.

Gabriel CLARKE about 1624 gave out of an estate called Willatt Mills in the parish of Woodford near Thrapston £2 yearly, to be distributed by the minister and churchwardens among ten of the poorest and most industrious families in Potterspury. This rentcharge is applied for the benefit of the poor; but owing to their great increase, it has been customary of late to let the fund accumulate until it amounts to about £10, when the whole is distributed amongst all the poor in the parish considered industrious and deserving, in sums corresponding to their wants and the size of their families.

OGLE'S CHARITY. Cuthbert Ogle by will dated 20 Mar. 1726 bequeathed £100 to be placed at interest at *£6 per annum*, or laid out in lands of that yearly value, and directed that £3 yearly should be applied to the preaching minister of Potterspury, and the other £3 towards the relief of the poor of Potterspury and Yardley Gobion. This legacy remained out at interest on private security until 1770, when £70 part of the money was invested in the purchase of £100 old South-sea annuities, but the remainder is supposed to have been lost by the failure of the security on which it had been lent. One half of the dividends, which amount to *£3 per ann.* is received by the vicar, and the other moiety is laid out in bread, which is given on five successive Sundays during winter in six penny loaves to poor widows selected by the vicar and churchwardens.

POOR'S MONEY INVESTED IN COTTAGES. The sum of £40 arising from the several small donations mentioned in the table of benefactions (p. 117) was laid out in 1805 with a further sum of £23 from what source derived does not appear, in the purchase of a messuage or cottage in Potterspury, now divided into two tenements, conveyed to trustees, on trust to apply the rents and profits to such uses and purposes as a majority of the inhabitants paying rates to the poor should think fit. The premises are occupied rent free by poor persons of the parish put in by the overseers, but it is proposed to demand the payment of a rent in future, and after providing thereout for repairs, to distribute the residue amongst the industrious and deserving poor. The premises are supposed to be worth about *£4 per annum*.

SAXBY'S CHARITY. The oldest deed relating to this charity is an indenture dated 28 May 1672 whereby a messuage in Buckingham, described to be held of the gift and feoffment of Nicholas Saxby, long before deceased, was conveyed to twelve feoffees, in trust for the repair of the church of Potterspury and of the bridges belonging to Potterspury and Yardley or either of them, and for the relief of the sick, lame, and diseased of Potterspury and Yardley, to all or any of the said uses, or to such other use or uses as should be thought most convenient by the majority of the feoffees, and that when the trustees should be reduced to six, the survivors should appoint six others on the like trusts. The property consists of a house in Buckingham, formerly the Talbot inn, with a small garden and out buildings; and is now let for *£16 per ann.* clear of taxes, the tenant undertaking to keep the buildings in repair. The rent is received by the trustees, and paid over to the churchwardens, who apply it to the repairs of the parish church, and for the benefit of Potterspury and Yardley Gobion, in proportion to the rate which each place is liable to.

YARDLEY GOBION,

in early records written Jerdele, forms the north-eastern division of the parish of Potterspury. The addition of Gobion was adopted from its ancient mesne lords, to distinguish it from Yardley Hastings in Wymerley hundred. The lordship was inclosed with Potterspury by act of parliament 15 Geo. 3 (1775).

MANORIAL HISTORY. FERRERS' FEE. HONOR OF TUTBURY*. From the family of Ferrers earls of Ferrers and Derby, the paramouncy of Yardley passed, as a member of Potterspury, through the baronial family of Fitz John, to the earls of Warwick. The paramount lords retained a portion of the lands in demesne; for Matilda coun-

* Vide POTTERSPURY, p. 215.

tess of Warwick, the coheirss of Fitz John was found to have in Yardley six virgates and a half in villenage^a; and Yardley was one of the places in which her grandson Thomas earl of Warwick had a grant of free warren^b.

MANOR. Amongst the feudatories of William earl Ferrers, when he certified his barony in 14 Hen. 2 (1167) was *Hugh de Gobion*, who had been enfeoffed by earl Robert his father, of three parts of a fee of his demesne^c. This Hugh was, 1 apprehend, the common ancestor of the Gobions of Northampton and Horton, and of Yardley. Which was the elder branch is not known; nor when the separation took place, but it is pointedly denoted by the contemporaneous prevalence of the christian names of Hugh and Richard in the former, and of Henry in the latter family. In the Testa de Nevill about 25 Hen. 3 (1240) *Henry Gobion* was returned to hold the third part of a fee in Jerdel of William earl Ferrers of the honor of Tutbury^d; and on the death of Richard Fitz John in 25 Edw. 1 (1297) *Henry Gobion* was found to hold of him a messuage and four virgates of land in Yerdely by the same service^e. In 20 Edw. 3 (1346) on collecting the aid for knighting the king's eldest son, *Henry Gobion*, senior, accounted for the sixth part of a fee in Jerdele Gobion of the honor of Tutbury^f. His successors are not known: in the inquisitions of Thomas earl of Warwick in 2 Hen. 4 (1401)^g and of Henry duke of Warwick in 24 Hen. 6 (1446)^h they are simply styled the heirs of Henry Gobion.

CROMWELL or CROMBELL MANOR. On the partition between the coheirs of Richard Fitz John in 27 Edw. 1 (1299) the manor of Potterspury, as already statedⁱ, was allotted to Matilda countess of Warwick, except £10. 15s. 9d. yearly in lands and rents assigned to Robert Clifford baron Clifford and Idonea widow of Roger Leybourn, two other of the coheirs^j. These reserved lands were principally in Yardley Gobion; and Clifford appears to have resigned his interest to *Idonea Leybourn*, whose second husband *John de Crombell* was returned lord of Yardley Gobion in 9 Edw. 2 (1315)^k. In 19 Edw. 2 (1325) he recovered by jury £300 damages against Robert de Wombwell and Robert Tres, who with others entered his manors of Moulton and Yerdley and, expelling him by force and arms, devastated his goods and moveables^l. The following year, Crombell contumaciously remaining abroad with the queen promoting her intrigues at the French court, the king seized the manor of Moulton and the lands and tenements in Yardley and Potterspury, together with various manors in the counties of Wilts, Buckingham, Bedford, Rutland, Lincoln, Nottingham, York, Warwick, and Derby, of the inheritance of Idonea his wife, and committed them to Roger de Bilney during pleasure^m; but on the accession of Edward III. he was restored to all his possessionsⁿ. Idonea de Leybourne, wife of John de Crombell—for so she is styled in the inquisition—died in 8 Edw. 3 (1334) without issue, when, having survived Hugh Despencer, junior^o, sometimes called earl of Gloucester, who had the reversion for life, her manors of Moulton and Jerdele by virtue of an entail created in 12 Edw. 2 (1318) devolved to

Edward baron Despencer, second son of said Hugh^p; whose widow Anne Despencer in 37 Edw. 3 (1363) conveyed the manor of Yerdlegh Gobion with lands in Potterspury, Yerdlegh Gobion, and Morende to

The King, in exchange for a moiety of the manor of Burghley in Rutlandshire^q; and the same year sir Thomas Despencer, second son of said Edward and Anne, conveyed the castle and manor of Morende, held partly under this manor, to the king in exchange for the other moiety of Burghley^r.

Yardley Gobion was annexed to the honor of Grafton on its erection in 33 Hen. 8 (1541) and has descended with it to George-Henry 4th duke of Grafton, K.G. the present proprietor (1835).

CHACOMB PRIORY had 10s. yearly out of half a virgate of land in Jerdel; and Robert Forester was summoned in Easter 7 & 8 Joh. (1206) to answer why he acknowledged only 7s. yearly; when he came, and confirmed the 10s. yearly for ever to be paid by him and his heirs^s.

THE VILLAGE is on the turnpike road from Northampton to Stony Stratford about four miles from the latter place. In the time of Bridges it was 'a considerable hamlet of three score houses and upwards^t'. By the census of 1801, it contained 96 houses, and 446 inhabitants; by that of 1811, 106 houses, and 508 inhabitants; by that of 1821, 119 houses, and 565 inhabitants; and by that of 1831, 133 houses, and 594 inhabitants. The annual quota of land tax for Yardley is £136. 18s. at 4s. in the £. The estimated value of real property as assessed to the property tax for the year ending April 1815 amounted to £1769^u. The poor's rates for the year ending April 1832, amounted to £639 at 10s. in the £. The wake is kept on the Sunday after St. Leonard.

CHAPEL. Bridges states that 'in *Yardley Gobions* was formerly a chapel dedicated to *St. Leonard*. The remains of it are now a public house; the entrance is with a round arch; and in the south wall of the brewshop, which appears to have been the chancel, is still part of a receptacle for holy water.' The house has since been modernised.

THE INDEPENDENTS have a small chapel at Yardley erected in 1826, where the minister of Potterspury officiates every Sunday evening.

^a Esc. 29 Edw. 1, n. 33. ^b Rot. Cart. 25, 26, 27 Edw. 3, n. 23. ^c Lib. Nig. 1, p. 221. ^d Test. Nor. fo. 107. ^e Esc. 25 Edw. 1, n. 50.
^f Inham MSS. No. 38, p. 199, "Comp. Walt. Paries." ^g Esc. 2 Hen. 4, n. 50. ^h Esc. 24 Hen. 6, n. 43. ⁱ Carligan MSS.
^j "Nom. Vill." p. 10. ^k Placit. 19 Edw. 2, r. 98. ^l Rot. Orig. 30 Edw. 2, r. 3. ^m Blome's Roll, p. 16, "Class. 1 Edw. 3, p. 1, m. 21 & 22." ⁿ Br. 1, p. 319.
^o Esc. 8 Edw. 3, n. 66. ^p Rot. Pat. 37 Edw. 3, p. 2, m. 19. ^q Ibid. m. 26. ^r Placit. Pasch. 7 & 8 Joh. r. 5.
^s Ibid. p. 320. ^t Vide Moulton, vol. 1, pp. 46 & 47. ^u Vide YELVERTOTT.

MORE END

is said by Bridges to have been 'so called from the family of *More*¹ formerly seated within this lordship,' but no family of that name is recorded in the inquisition referred to, or in any other known document, in connection with the place; and the *Moor-end* of the parish presents a much more probable etymology. It consists of old inclosures north-west of Potterspury and south-west of Yardley Gobion.

MANOR. The earliest notice of this portion of Potterspury parish, is in 32 Edw. 1 (1304) when *John de Tynge-wyk*, or *Tingewick* of *EVENLEY**, warden of Whittlebury forest† died seised of a messuage with garden and dove-house in Morend, leaving *William de Tingewick* his son and heir²; on whose decease in 10 Edw. 2 (1316) *John de Tingewick* was his brother and heir aged thirty years, and his estate in Morhende is described as a messuage and lands held of John de Crombwell by service of 3s. 1d. yearly, and suit at his court every three weeks³.

In 27 Edw. 3 (1353) *Thomas de Ferrers*, a junior but unappropriated branch of that noble family, died seised of the manors of Fairstead in Essex, Lillingston Dansy in Oxfordshire, Calverton in Buckinghamshire, and Plumpton Pury, and Morende. The manor of Morende was held of Thomas earl of Warwick by payment of 33s. 4d. yearly, a pound of pepper three times yearly, and suit to his court at Pury every three weeks; and of Henry Gobion by payment of 12d. yearly, and suit to his court at Yardley every three weeks⁴. *William Ferrers* was son and heir aged twenty-one years, but the Northamptonshire manors did not descend to him, being settled by his father on Ankaret le Strange his wife for life, remainder to Henry de Lisle in tail male, remainder to Thomas le Despencer in tail male, remainder to himself in fee⁵. *Sir Thomas Despencer* was second son of Edward baron Despencer⁶, and in 37 Edw. 3 (1363) being then in possession by virtue of the entail, conveyed the manor and castle of Morende and manor of Plumpton Pury to

The King in exchange for a moiety of the manor of Burchley in Rutlandshire in tail male, remainder to *William de Ferrers* in fee⁷. The king the same year appointed a supervisor and clerk of the works for his castle at Morende⁸; and in 43 Edw. 3 (1369) the custody of the castle and manor was granted to John de Ipres, warden of Whittlebury forest†, for life⁹. By inquisition in 50 Edw. 3 (1376) Morend and Yardley were found to be within the limits of the earl of Warwick's manor of Potterspury, and the site of the king's castle of Morende was held by payment of 74d. yearly to the earl¹⁰. Towards the close of his reign, the king gave the manors of Morende and Plumpton Pury, with several others in this and other counties, to his favorite mistress *Alice Perrers*; and after her attainder in 1 Ric. 2 (1377)¹¹ this castle and manor¹² were let by lease for nine years to *Sir Rich. de Walgrave* who paid for them forty marks *per annum*, and this lease was confirmed to him in the fourth year of the same reign¹³. By inquisition in 13 Ric. 2 (1389) it was found that the manor of Plumpton Pury was parcel of the manor and castle of Morende which were then held by *Anne* queen of England for life by grant from the king¹⁴; and by an inquisition *ad quod damnum* in 7 Hen. 4 (1405) the late queen was returned to have held, in addition to this manor and castle, the manor of Wedon and Weston, and the village or manor of Kingsthorp in this county¹⁵. The queen died in 1394 (18 Ric. 2) and the same year John Sebright had a lease of the castle and manor for ten years at a yearly rent of 40 marks (£26. 13s. 4d.)¹⁶; but before the expiration of the lease, the king granted the castle of Morende, with all the manors thereto belonging, to Philippa duchess of Ireland for life¹⁷.

Humphry duke of Gloucester died 23 Feb. 24 Hen. 6 (1446) seised (*int. al.*) of the castle and manor of Morhende, leaving the king his nephew and heir¹⁸, who granted them the following day to

Sir Robert Roos in tail male¹⁹. He was the fourth son of William seventh baron Roos of Hamlake²⁰, and died in Dec. 27 Hen. 6 (1448) leaving *Henry Roos* his son and heir aged fifteen years²¹; notwithstanding which the king granted this castle and manor to

His uterine brother *Jasper of Hatfield*, then earl of Pembroke²², and afterwards duke of Bedford; who in his turn was dispossessed by king Edward IV. and in 2 Edw. 4 (1462) they were granted (*int. al.*) to

Richard Nevill, earl of Warwick, in consideration of his surrendering to the king the manors of Raddesdale and Ribblesdale in Yorkshire²³. They were forfeited by his attainder, and in 14 Edw. 4 (1474) formed part of an extensive grant to

George duke of Clarence²⁴, the king's brother and son in law of the late earl of Warwick²⁵. On his attainder in 17 Edw. 4 (1477) they again reverted to the crown, and the same year 'the offices of the Constable of the castle of *More-end*, of Keeper of the Park, and Steward of the Lordship of *More*, with the power of appointing all other officers belonging to the said castle and Lordship' were granted to *John Hulcote*, esq. for life²⁶. In the act of resumption in 1 Hen. 7 (1485), special exceptions were made in favor of *Thomas Philip*, for the offices of bailiff of *More-end* and *Estpyre*, and parker of the park of *Estpyre*, granted to him by letters patent²⁷; and of *Thomas Green*, esq. for the offices of constable of the castle of *Moore-end*, with the keeping of the park there²⁸, granted to him by letters patent²⁹.

* Br. 1, p. 319, * see Esc. Anno 50 Edw. III. n. 35.

* Rot. Pat. 37 Edw. 3, p. 2, m. 26. * Ibid. m. 19.

* Br. 1, p. 319, * Rot. Fin. anno 1 Ric. II. p. 2, m. 19 & anno 4 Ric. II. m. 22.

* Rot. Fin. 18 Ric. 2, m. 25. * Rot. Pat. 22 Ric. 2, p. 3, m. 2.

* Rot. Pat. 37 Hen. 6, p. 2, m. 20; * Rot. Pat. vol. 6, p. 470.

* Br. 1, p. 319, * Pat. anno 17 Edw. IV. p. 2.

* Vide vol. 1, p. 611. † Vide p. 78.

* Esc. 32 Edw. 1, n. 44.

* Rot. Orig. 43 Edw. 3, r. 3.

* Esc. 13 Ric. 2, p. 2, m. 26.

* Esc. 23 Hen. 6, n. 26.

* Rot. Pat. 2 Edw. 4, p. 1, m. 15.

* Ibid. p. 379.

* Vide VELVERTOP.

* Esc. 10 Edw. 2, n. 31.

* Esc. 50 Edw. 3, p. 2, m. 35.

* Inq. ad q. d. 7 Hen. 4, n. 21.

* Esc. 27 Hen. 6, n. 28.

* Rot. Pat. 14 Edw. 4, p. 1, m. 3.

* Rot. Pat. 2 Oct. 1 Hen. 7, p. 2.

* Vide p. 219.

* Esc. 27 Edw. 3, n. 50.

* Esc. 1 Ric. 2, n. 30.

* Esc. 27 Hen. 6, n. 28.

* Rot. Pat. 2 Oct. 1 Hen. 7, p. 2.

* Vide p. 219.

* Vide p. 219.

* Vide p. 219.

In 11 Hen. 7 (1495) the king having created his second son Henry duke of York (afterwards king Henry VIII.) settled on him by act of parliament the reversion of all the castles, manors, and possessions which Jasper duke of Bedford then held by grant from the king himself or his uncle king Henry VI., except (int. al.) the castle and manor of Moresyend with their appurtenances in "Moresyend, Westpury, and Yardeley, besydes Moresyend," which immediately on the decease of the said duke should pass to the king himself as they were in the hands and possession of king Henry VI. before the grant to the said duke, or at any time after during his reign¹. In 7 Hen. 8 (1515) the castle and manor of More end were granted to

Sir Thomas Parr²; of whose son sir William Parr, afterwards marquis of Northampton, they were re-purchased by the crown. The manor of More-end, formerly purchased of sir William Parr, formed part of the provision made by king Charles II. for the first duke of Grafton³, and is now (1835) vested in George-Henry fourth duke of Grafton, K.G.

One of the courts of the honor of Grafton is held at More End for the manors of Yardley Gobion, Paulerspury, and Plumpton End.

CASTLE. The date of its erection, or of its demolition, is equally unknown. Bridges conjectures that 'this and the neighbouring castle at Alderton were both built in the reign of king Stephen'⁴—the most prolific era of castle building. The latest notice of this castle is in the grant to Parr in the reign of king Henry VIII. and as the *manor* only is mentioned in the grant from king Charles II. it may be presumed to have been destroyed in the intervening period. It stood in a low situation, and the site is still known as the Castle close. The late tenant, in digging up the foundations, obtained above two thousand yards of stone. It was a rectangular building with a tower at each angle. A few of the architectural fragments have been introduced into the out offices of the 'large old house at More-end supposed' by Bridges⁵ to have been the mansion of the *Gobions*. There are only four other houses in this hamlet.

¹ Rot. Parl. vol. 6, p. 470.

² Rot. Orig. 7 Hen. 8, r. 89.

³ Br. 1, p. 319.

⁴ Vide GREENS NORTON, p. 61.

⁵ Vide GRAFTON REGIS, p. 169.



WAKEFIELD,

in domesday Wacafeld, presents the obvious etymology of "*the field of Wac or Wake*" the first Saxon possessor; who, like most of those who denominated the early parishes, had disappeared and was superseded by another lord at the Norman survey. His memory, however, survives in the patriarchal tree whose name of WAKE'S OAK wafts the imagination of the spectator back to the era of the Saxon planter. This venerable and interesting ornament of the forest rears its massy trunk and wide-spreading arms near the forest gate leading to Paxley. On a comparison with other celebrated trees, and calculations on their respective ages, *this* cannot be estimated at less than a thousand years old. Its circumference at the root is forty-six feet three inches; at five feet high it is twenty-one feet three inches in girth, and at eleven feet high, thirty-six feet; and the extremities of its boughs include a line of seventy feet from east to west, and of sixty feet from north to south. The "*Farmer's Boy*" has paid his tribute to "*Wake's huge oak*" in the "*Lines* written on a visit to Whittlebury forest in August 1800," when enjoying the hospitality of his noble patron the late duke of Grafton.

WAKEFIELD LAWN RACES were established by the late duke of Grafton, and, after being supported with spirit for nearly twenty years, were discontinued in 1788. The following distinguished names were in one of the sweepstakes in 1777, lord Clermont, Mr. Panton, jun. sir Charles Bunbury, duke of Grafton, Mr. Vernon, Mr. Cha^s. Fox, general Parker, Mr. Powell, and lord Jersey; and the races were generally attended by the *elite* of the sporting world.

MANORIAL HISTORY. At the domesday survey Wacafeld was held by Ralph Dapifer or the Steward, under earl Alan. It consisted of four parts of half a hide. The arable was two carucates; of which one was in demesne; and

WAKEFIELD LODGE, the forestal seat of the dukes of Grafton, became the official residence of the lords warden of the forest on the desertion of PUNLEY 4. The erection of the former lodge is attributed to John Claypole, esq. of NORBOROUGH, son-in-law of Oliver Cromwell, through whom he obtained the wardenship of the forest; but the present mansion was built by Charles second duke of Grafton from a design by W. Kent; and is an elegantly plain edifice with a tetrastyle portico of the Tuscan order. In the *saloon* are two full-length portraits of Charles 2d duke of Grafton, K.G. as lord chamberlain; General Wall—an Irishman naturalized in Spain—ambassador in England from the court of Madrid. *Dining room*: a Hunting piece; a Hunting picture in Spain—ambassador in England from the landscape by *Barrett*; and various portraits of favorite horses by *Stubbs* and *Cooper*. *Drawing room*: Maria, widow of James 2d earl of Waldegrave, K.G. and afterwards duchess of Gloucester, *Reynolds*; George-Henry earl of Euston (4th duke of Grafton), *Hopner*; Charlotte Maria Waldegrave, countess of Euston, *Hopner*; Charles prince of Wales, James duke of York, and princess Mary, children of king Charles I. from *Vandyck*; two views of the bay of Naples, and a view on the Rhine, *Marlow*. *Duke's room*: Augustus-Henry 3d duke of Grafton, K.G. *Dance*; another, *Hopner*; Anne Liddell, duchess of Grafton, in crayons. *Yellow room*: admiral lord Radstock, *Northcote*; duchess of Portsmouth, *Lely*; three paintings in water colours by *Glover*, and two by *Bourne*; and two views of old gateway, Windsor castle, *Paul Sandby*. *Library*: James 2d earl of Waldegrave, K.G., *Reynolds*. The house stands about a mile south of Pottersbury on a gentle eminence sloping to an expansive lake of forty acres beyond which rises a beautiful lawn nearly a mile in circuit, belted by stately woods, with ridings branching off in every direction into the heart of the forest.

MANORIAL HISTORY. CHOKES FEE ||. The only estate in Rode which is specifically recorded in domesday (except HIDE, which will be separately noticed) was the freehold of *Suain* § in the time of Edward the confessor. It was then rated at no more than 12d. yearly, but was quadrupled in value at the survey, when it was held by *Dodin*

Рануа, vol. 1, p. 26.

CLELEY HUNDRED.

under Gunfrid de Cioches or Chokes. It contained four parts of half a hide. The arable land was one carucate in the occupation of two bordars. There was a wood half a furlong long by four perches wide⁴. The remainder of the lordship was composed of portions surveyed under Ashton and Hartwell. The tenure under Chokes cannot be subsequently traced, nor can the paramoury of Peverel and Say be satisfactorily deduced.

MAUNTELL LANDS OF MANOR. The materials for the descent of the mesne estates are almost as scanty and imperfect as for the paramoury, and much must be left to conjecture. In the hydariam of Hen. 2, *Michael Mauntell* was returned to hold six small virgates in "Somersshale"—which will be subsequently identified with Road—of the fee of William Peverel of Higham⁵; and then follows an hiatus of upwards of a century to 9 Edw. 2 (1315), when *Robert Mauntell* is certified to be lord of Rode⁶. It was found by inquisition *ad quod damnum* in 19 Edw. 2 (1325) that it would not be to the damage of the king, if *Henry Mauntell* had licence to enfeoff the warden or chaplain of St. Mary's chapel in Hanslope, in one messuage and fourteen acres of land in Rode and Ashen held by service of one penny yearly to Robert Mauntell, who held of Geoffrey de Say⁷. In 3 Edw. 3 (1329) the jurors on an inquisition respecting lands held by sergeantry, presented that *Robert Mauntell* had forty acres in Rode in certain places called *Somersshale* and Lidgate worth one mark yearly, of the fee of Peverel, by the service of providing the king in his wars against the Welch whenever they might happen, one horse of the value of 5s. and one bag (saccus) of the value of 4½d. with one pitcher or flagon, or, according to some authorities, awl, packing needle or piercer to repair sacks, saddles, and horse furniture (brochia), for forty days at his own cost; and that he or his ancestors so held the said lands from time beyond memory, and that the service was not in arrear⁸. Though no further notice of the Mauntell estate here occurs for nearly two centuries, the family had been gradually increasing their property in the county, and in 18 Hen. 7 (1503) *John Mauntell*, esq. died seised of the manors of Heyford⁹, Norton near Daven-try, and Farthingho¹⁰, besides lands in other places, including four messuages and ten virgates of land in Rode and Ashton, held of the heirs of Bryan Talbot, and a wood in Rode called Shortwood held of the prior of Lenton near Nottingham¹¹. For the melancholy termination to the fortunes of the Mauntells in the following reign the reader is referred to Heyford¹².

KNIGHTLEY MANOR. John Newbold gave a messuage, eight virgates of land, and six curtilages in Hartwell, Rode, and Ashton, in free marriage with his daughter Alice, to Thomas son of Thomas le Butiller or Boteler, whose son and heir Robert Boteler died seised of them in 8 Hen. 5 (1420) held of the lord Say as of his honor of Dover, and was succeeded by Isabella his daughter and heiress, wife of John Everard¹³. In 26 Hen. 6 (1447) John Vessy of St. Alban's in Hertfordshire, late of Stony Stratford in Buckinghamshire, conveyed to his cousin John Vessy of Clifton Reynes in Buckinghamshire, all his lands and tenements in Rode, Hertewell, and Asshen, which he had of the gift of his mother Isabella Vessy late of Rode, and which formerly belonged to Robert Boteler of Hartwell¹⁴. This estate passed to the Knightleys of PAWSLEY¹⁵; and in 34 Hen. 8 (1542) sir *Edmund Knightley* transferred (*int. al.*) the manor of Roade to

The King in exchange for other manors and lands¹⁶.

WIDEVILLE MANOR. There was a third estate here which *Thomas Wideville* of Grafton, esq. describes in his will in 12 Hen. 6 (1433) as the manor of Rode¹⁷; and which under the same description is included in the settlement which *Richard* the third and last earl Rivers made of his estates in 5 Hen. 7 (1489)¹⁸.

All the above estates ultimately centered in the crown, and were included in the extensive grant in 1673 from king Charles II, in trust for the first duke of Grafton¹⁹. Neither of them is designated a manor in the grant, but each is specifically noticed; the Wideville estate may be traced in the manor of Hartwell and lands in Hartwell, Rode, and Ashton, and the two others in the lands in "Road" purchased from Edmund Knightley, and in the lands in "Road" late of John [Walter] Mantell attainted of high treason²⁰. From this period they have lineally descended to *George-Henry* fourth duke of Grafton, K.G. the present proprietor (1835), who is described lord of the manor in the act for inclosing Roade and Ashton.

ST. JAMES'S ABBEY near Northampton had of the gift of Simon de Hartwell, the two virgates of land in Rode which William Salvage and William the nephew of Turbert held together with the said men, and all the tenures belonging to the said virgates²¹; and one acre adjoining their culture near Hyde of the gift of Robert Mantel, rendering to him and his heirs 1d. yearly, and 2d. to the oblations on the feast of St. James²². John le Clerc of Rode gave to the convent of St. James six acres and a rood in Rode and Ashton for the support of a lamp before the high altar of their church, for which grant the canons covenanted that he should be received into their prayers, and the day of his anniversary be kept in their martyrology, and that the sacrist of the convent should pay 12d. yearly for his soul on his anniversary²³. In the ecclesiastical survey of 1535 (26 Hen. 8) the temporalities of this monastery in Rode were rated at £5. 13s. 4d. *per ann.*²⁴ In 4 Edw. 6 (1550) the lands in Rode, parcel of the late abbey of St. James, were granted (*int. al.*) to Richard Fernor, esq. of EASTON NESTON²⁵, whose descendants were still in possession in the reign of king James I.

LENTON PRIORY near Nottingham had a wood in Rode called Shortwood. By whom given is unknown; but it was doubtless part of "the lands of Turstin Mantell" specially excepted in the confirmation charter of king

¹ Domesd. fo. 277 b.

² Cotton MSS. Vesp. E. xxi. fo. 96.

³ Cardigan MSS. "Nom. Vill. p. 10."

⁴ Inq. ad q. d. 19 Edw. 2, n. 46.

⁵ Inham MSS. No. 37, "Plac. Coron. 3 Edw. 3, r. 35."

⁶ Esc. 1 Hen. 8, n. 39.

⁷ Esc. 7 Hen. 6, n. 35.

⁸ Knightley evidences.

⁹ Rot. Pat. 21 Jun. 23 Car. 2, p. 8, n. 8.

¹⁰ Fernor evidences.

¹¹ Angus. Off.

¹² Rot. Pat. 28 Mar. 4 Edw. 6, p. 9.

¹³ Brit. Mus. xxx. 34.

¹⁴ Ibid. p. 417.

¹⁵ Ibid. p. 670.

¹⁶ Ibid. p. 383 to 385.

¹⁷ Vide p. 162.

¹⁸ Vide p. 168.

¹⁹ Vide p. 142.

²⁰ Vide vol. 1, p. 183.

Henry I. as not included in the grant of Courtenhall to Thoriory p, but which must have been subsequently acquired by the monks. In 7 Hen. 5 (1419) the feoffees of John Mauntell son of John Mauntell of Hartwell released to him Shortwood near the church of Rode; and in 16 Edw. 4 (1476) certain feoffees conveyed to new feoffees the wood with plain called Shortwood in the parish of Rode, which they had of the feoffment of Elizabeth Mauntell widow of John Mauntell, esq.⁴ In 18 Hen. 7 (1503) her son John Mauntell, esq. died seised of Shortwood held of the prior of Lenton by fealty, and a red rose yearly⁵; and in the inquisition of his son sir Walter Mauntell it is certified to contain one hundred and sixty acres⁶. This wood was granted in 1 Eliz. (1558-9) to Henry (Carey) lord Hunsdon.

ROADE was annexed to the honor of Grafton on its first erection in 33 Hen. 8 (1541), and is a member of the court held there.

THE VILLAGE is skirted the turnpike road to Stony Stratford about six miles from Northampton. In the time of Bridges there were 'about eighty families'. By the census of 1801, it contained 82 houses and 345 inhabitants; by that of 1811, 99 houses and 428 inhabitants; by that of 1821, 101 houses and 480 inhabitants; and by that of 1831, 113 houses and 553 inhabitants. The annual quota of land tax for this parish is £70. 10s. 5d. at 4s. in the £. The estimated value of real property as assessed to the property tax of 10 per cent. for the year ending April 1818, amounted to £1283. The poor's rates for the year ending Easter 1832, raised £406. 14s. 6d. at 5s. 6d. in the £. The wake follows the 19th of September.

ADWOSON. In the episcopacy of R. bishop of Lincoln, but whether Robert Blue² between 1093 and 1123 or Robert de Querceto between 1147 and 1167 is uncertain, Simon de Hartwell for the souls of his father Geoffrey and his brothers William and Henry gave to the abbey of St. James near Northampton that part of the church of Rode which belonged to his fee with a virgate of land, and the chapel of Hartwell with a virgate of land^s; and Walchein Mannot the lord of the fee confirmed the grant^s. Rode is the mother church from which sprung the affiliated churches of Ashton and Hartwell; but why it should have been constituted their head, though at the domesticary survey inferior in extent to either of its members, is a parochial problem which cannot now be solved. The St. James's abbey portion, or two thirds of the advowson, by various mesne conveyances from Richard Fermor, esq. of EASTON NASTON, the grantee after the dissolution^s, is now vested in the duke of Grafton, who is thereby entitled to *two* nominations out of three to the perpetual curacy or vicarage.

The other third part of the advowson of Rode with the *chapel* of Ashton belonged to the successive messe lords of Ashton,¹ and the patronage was exercised by them till Ashton was invested with parochial rights; from which period the rector of Ashton officiated every third year at Rode or paid £10 for a chaplain; but since the inclosure of the parishes and the allotment of land to the perpetual curate or vicar of Rode in lieu of the stipend, the duty has been wholly performed by him, and the rector of Ashton has the *third* turn of nomination to this singularly complex benefice.

THE RECTORY. Amongst the spiritualities of St. James's abbey in the taxation of 1254 (38 Hen. 3) the church of Rode was rated at 5 marks (£3. 6s. 8d.) *per ann.*; and in that of 1291 (20 Edw. 1) the St. James's portion of the church of Rode is valued at the same rate. The Ashton portion is not noticed in either. In 3 Edw. 3 (1329) Roger (Chamnceaux) de Hardreshull, William de Bechampton chaplain and another were summoned to answer to the abbot of St. James why they had forcibly seized his goods and chattels in Ashton and Rode to the amount of £10; when Roger pleaded that he had committed no trespass, for he was parson of the chapel of Ashton and moiety of the church of Rode, and the said goods and chattels were the tithes arising within his parish which he and his servant collected and were his due^b. The decision on this point did not however terminate the dispute, which extended to 16 Edw. 3 (1342) when it was agreed between the abbot of St. James, sir John de Hardreshull and Maud his wife, and Roger Chauceux parson or rector of the third part of the church of Rode, that the abbot should provide a parish chaplain for two years, beginning with the present year, and should take all the tithes of the town of Rode, and of the thirteen tenants in the hamlet of Asshen which is of the fee of Say; and that the said parson should serve the church for the next following year and take the tithes, but not in the hamlet of Hartwell, which is of the fee of Say^c. Chauceux evaded or violated this arrangement, and his diocesan neglected to enforce it; for in 20 Edw. 3 (1346) the official of the court [of arches?] appraised the official of the archdeacon of Northampton that a complaint had been laid before the court of Canterbury by the abbot and convent of St. James, appropriators of two parts of the church of Rode wholly, with the tithes of nine virgates and twenty acres of land, and the chapel of Hartwell; and that Thomas Rode wholly, with the tithes of nine virgates and twenty acres of land, and the chapel of Hartwell rector of (le Bek) bishop of Lincoln had not called into judgment, though duly required by them, sir Roger Chauceux rector of the same part of the said church, who molested them about the right of tithes; whereupon, having duly heard the cause, he decided that the two parts, with the tithes of the nine virgates and twenty acres and the chapel of Hartwell belonged to the said abbot and convent, and also the right of taking all tithes, offerings, and mortuaries which a rector could take of all kinds and places of the fee of Say and half of the fee of Peverel within the parish of Rode-church, and of all other lands and places of the master and brethren of the hospital of Northampton, and of all the culture of Alice le Ridere lying in the Blackslade, and the land of the lord of Asshen by the forest of Saley [de Salueto], of all the culture of the land by Hartwell called Bustardesleyes, of the culture of the land called the Neweweto], of all the culture of the land by Hartwell called Bustardesleyes, of the culture of the parishicners of Rode-lond Stokkyng, of three pieces of land with assarts, and the offerings and mortuaries of the parishicners of Rode-lond church, and of all their animals within the said parish, together with the chapel of Hartwell and all tithes great and

* Mon. Ang. vol. 1, p. 648.

7. Fermor evidences

* Esc. 1 Hen. 8, n. 39

* Esc. 22 Hen. 8, n. 117.

¹ Rot. Pat. 20 Mar. 1 Eliz. p. 9.

* Tax. Eocl. p. 38.

* Br. 1, p. 320.

* Br. MSS. E. p. 390.

Pat. 28 Mar. 4 Edw. 6, p. 9.

© Br. MSS. E. p. 454.

1. Isham MSS.

small within the limits of the said chapel; and that the said rector of a certain part of the said church should refrain from molesting them.^d

The inappropriate tithes in Roade with the right of appointing a chaplain to officiate in the church every two years in three, parcel of the late abbey of St. James, were granted in 4 Edw. 6 (1550) to Richard Fernor, esq.^e of EASTON NESTON, from whose descendant Sir *Hatton Fernor* they came into the possession of *Stephen Hoe, Esq.*^f Bridges says 'these tithes are now possessed by Mr. *John Lansdown* of *Woodborough* in *Somersetshire*.' Mr. *Lansdown* sold his inappropriate tithes and share of the advowson to Mr. *Clark* of *Courtenhall*, who bequeathed them to his nephew the late Mr. *William Rudd* of *Hardington*; under whose will they were purchased in 1802 by *Augustus Henry 3d* duke of *Grafton*. But a portion of the tithes were retained by the *Hoes*. Mr. *Stephen Hoe*, who died in 1713 left two daughters, one of whom was mother of the rev. *Stephen Hoe Henshaw*, who devised his tithes to Mr. *Roade* and *Ashton* awarded allotments to no less than twenty-eight freeholders. The commissioners for inclosing private tithes in *Roade*; and 75a. 2r. 3p. of land to the rector of *Ashton* for glebe, and his share of great and small tithes in *Roade*.

THE VICARAGE or PERPETUAL CURACY is in the deanry of *Preston*. The abbot and convent of *St. James* obtained an appropriation of their portion of the church of *Rode* in the time of *Hugh (Wells)* bishop of *Lincoln* between 1209 and 1234, and a vicarage was ordained; but probably never acted upon, as there are no episcopal institutions to the vicarage, and the cure was supplied every two years in three by a chaplain of their nomination. No return was made of this benefice in the ecclesiastical survey of 1535 (26 Hen. 8). In 1637 "it was ordered at the council board by the archbishop of *Canterbury* and the lord keeper that Mr. *Preston* the incumbent shall have £20 per ann. of *Stephen Hoe* for serving the cure of *Road* and £20 of the parson of *Ashton* for serving the third year." The parliamentary commissioners in 1655 certified that two parts of the tithes were impropriate and in possession of Mr. *Lane* who for two years provided for the cure; and the third part belonged to *Ashton* and the minister thereof supplied the cure that time; and that the place was then void of a preaching minister, and if maintenance could be settled it was fit to be a distinct parish.^g It is a discharged living, certified to be of the yearly value of £15; and erroneously described in *Bacon's Liber Regis* as "a chapel to *Collingtree*." In the return of livings under £150 per ann. in 1809, the bishop of *Peterborough* certified it to be of the yearly value of £38, arising from pension, tithes, augmentation, and surplice fees. It was augmented by queen *Anne's* bounty in 1774 with £200 to meet a benefaction of the same amount from the administratrix of *Thomas* late earl of *Thanet*; in 1775 with £200 by lot; in 1810 with a parliamentary grant of £200 by lot; and in 1816 with another augmentation from queen *Anne's* bounty of £200 by lot. The vicarage now consists of 40a. 2r. 31p. of land allotted by the commissioners of inclosure in lieu of the small tithes of the open fields and old inclosures, and 5a. 2r. 17p. of land awarded by them in lieu of the payment of £10 from the duke of *Grafton* every two years in three, and £10 from the rector of *Ashton* every third year; 24a. of land at *Priors Marston* in *Warwickshire* purchased with the augmentation of £600 in 1774 and 1775; and 13a. of land in *Roade* purchased with the augmentation of £400 in 1810 and 1816.

There is no parsonage house.

RECTORS. The following are the rectors instituted on the presentation of the lords of *Ashton*:

Geobold.

Robert de Nevill, jun. subdeacon, by *Robert le Lou*, 1224.

Peter Lupus, subdeacon, 1230.

William de Esse, deacon, 1232.

Waleran.

John le Lou, acolyte, by sir *Phillip le Lou*, 13 May 1311.

Roger Chaumceux de Hardreshull, acolyte, 28 Sept. 1329.

John de Calkewell, priest, by sir *John de Hardreshull* 17 July 1349.

William Syward, priest, by sir *Thomas Colepeper*, 12 Apr. 1377.

Walter Kempston, priest, 14 Oct. 1392.

William Body, 24 Dec. 1399.

Sir John Parish.

Sir John Brygge, priest, by *Robert Fenne*, esq. and *Joan* his wife, 24 June 1462.

Sir John Bailly, priest, by *Brian Talbot*, esq. 20 Dec. 1472.

Robert Barker. He was rector of *Blisworth* from 1471 to 1473, and of *Milton* from 1489 to 1494.

Sir Christopher Bonfaunt, priest, by *Alexander Colepeper*, esq. 6 Mar. 1489.

Sir Richard Armerer, 5 Apr. 1508.

Sir John Day, chaplain, 31 Jan. 1516; in whose incumbency *Ashton* was converted into a parish, and hencefor-

ward the parochial duty was performed every third year by the rector of *Ashton* or his deputy till the inclosure act, when an allotment was made to the perpetual curate for the payment due from the rector, and the two portions thus became consolidated under one minister.

PERPETUAL CURATES or VICARS. The names of the chaplains nominated by the abbot and convent of *St. James* are not preserved; and the following list of ministers or curates is gleaned from the parish register.

William Kirward, occurs in 1587 and 1600.

Richard Porell occurs in 1606. He was vicar of *Pateshull* from 1618 to 1638.

John Codlin occurs 1610, and was buried here 3 May 1618.

Anthony Drury, A.M. 1618.

Thomas Mayo, 1619. He had been rector of *Blisworth* from 1602 to 1615.

John Wilmot, 1627.

John Rands, 1629.

Samuel Preston, 1630, and instituted vicar 30 June 1634, on the presentation of the king. He was rector of *Blisworth* from 1615 to 1629. The subsequent incumbents were appointed by the patrons; but on the last augmentation of the living, it was by consent of the patrons again placed under episcopal jurisdiction.

^d Br. MSS. E. p. 453.

^e Pat. 29 Mar. 4 Edw. 6, p. 9.

^f Br. 1, p. 321.

^g Par. Reg.

^h Lambeth MSS. vol. 20.

William Harrison, 1677. He was rector of Grafton Regis in 1683.
Richard Heblethwaite,
William Butlin, of Linc. coll. Oxf. A.M. appointed by

Augustus-Henry duke of Grafton and the rev. John Risley rector of Ashton. He is also perpetual curate of Hartwell.

THE REGISTERS commence in 1587.

THE CHURCH, dedicated to the blessed Virgin, stands at the northern extremity of the village, and is a plain edifice of the transition period between the Norman and early English styles, consisting of a central tower with four bells, nave, south porch, and chancel. All the bells are inscribed. On the first is *RODA CAMPANA MANERET SÆCULUM*; on the second, *SANCTA MARCARENA ORA PRO NOBIS*; on the third, *ÆC NOMEN DOMINI BENEDICIT*; and on the fourth, *IN MVLTIS ANNIS RESONET CAMPANA TORONIA*. On the north and south sides of the tower are three Norman arches under the belfry windows, and a small lancet window beneath. The south door is Norman with rather peculiar enrichments. It is supported on each side by two columns with capitals, from which spring large round archivolt mouldings; on the outer edge of the lower one is a series of grotesque heads, the beaks or tongues of the alternate ones, or nearly so, projecting over the moulding; and the outer edge of the upper one has a row of ornaments, somewhat resembling heraldic chess-rooks with a ball rising from the centre of each. The north side of the nave and the chancel retains the two original small lancet windows with expanding embrasures in the interior; but larger windows of a later character have been introduced on the south side of the nave. The nave is 49 ft. 6 in. long, and 19 ft. 2 in. wide; the tower 16 ft. 8 in. long, and 12 ft. 6 in. wide; and the chancel 23 ft. long, and 16 ft. 7 in. wide. The interior is neatly paved with stone, and pewed, and a gallery crosses the west end. The font with a circular basin, is opposite the south door. The tower is separated from the nave and chancel by two corresponding early English arches on demi-octangular pillars with capitals having a single row of the dog-tooth ornament between two sets of plain mouldings. In the south wall of the chancel is a trefoil-headed piscina.

MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS.

NAVE. On four stone tablets against the south and east walls:

I. Here lieth Buried in this Church ye Body of Mr Stephen Hoe Senior who departed this life January ye 5th 1713 Aged 79 years.

II. NEAR this Place Lies Interr'd the Rev^d Mr STEPHEN HOE HENSHAW Late Batchelor of Arts of Pembroke College Oxford and 29 years Vicar of Chalgrove Bedfordshire who died May the 24th 1772 In the 66th Year of his Age. MEMENTO MORI.

III. Here lyeth the body of Mrs Susanna the wife of John Henshaw. She was the Mother of Stephen Hoe Henshaw & daughter of Mr Stephen Hoe & Mary his wife who was ye daughter of Mr Thurstan Toone Rect^r of Collintree. She departed this life August ye 1st 1706. Aged 55 Years.

IV.

HERE Lies interred JOHN HENSHAW Yeoman, Who Died March the 4th 1762, Aged 82. MEMENTO MORI.

Slab for 1. Mr Stephen Hoe & Mary his wife, Feb. 1710.

CHANCEL. V. Against the north wall is a plain inscribed altar tomb of free stone. 'By tradition it is said, that *Richard Wake of Hertwell*, the second son of *Roger Wake of Blissworth*, with his two wives^k *Dorothy* daughter of *Sir John Dive*, and *Margaret* the daughter of *Thomas Lord Grey* and *Marquis of Dorset*, are buried under it.'

On slab:

2. HERE LIETH YE BODIE OF JOHN FAWCET AL'S CODLIN MR OF ARTS & PREACHER OF GOD'S WORD. HE WAS BORNE AT KINGS LYNN IN NORFOLKE AND DEPARTED THIS PRESENT LIFE YE 2 OF MAIE 1618. HE GAVE £3 TO YE CHURCH 20^s TO YE POORE OF THIS PISH & 15^s TO YE POORE OF HARTWELL.

Here lieth the body of Mrs Mary Hoe wife of Mr. Stephen Hoe who departed this life in february 1708.

THE PARTICULAR OR CALVINISTIC BAPTISTS have a congregation here, which has been established upwards of a century.

Richard Leapor, the first known minister, occurs in 1728. — *Gilman*, 1735, and the following year the society built a chapel on the present site.

Samuel Deacon, from 1741 to his death in 1779.
John B. Peetress, 1781.
William Heighton, from 1787 to his death in 1827.
George Jayne, 1829.

¹ Br. 1, p. 322.

^k 'Vincent's Visitat. of Northampt.'

CLELEY HUNDRED.

THE CHAPEL stands on the south side of the village, and was rebuilt on the site of the former one in 1802. It is a neat building of stone, 45 ft. long by 35 ft. wide. It is pewed, and has a gallery across the north end.

I. On one side of the pulpit is a small marble tablet:

SACRED
to the memory of
The Rev. WILLIAM HEIGHTON
nearly Forty years the affectionate and faithful
Pastor of this Church,
in doctrine sound, in devotion ardent, in life holy,

and in death happy.
He was gathered unto his People
March 21st 1827, aged 74.
Reader, be admonished of thy latter end.

II. On the north wall is a stone tablet for
M^r Samuel Deacon, late pastor of this church upwards of
38 years, 3 Dec. 1779, *æt*. 69.
Mary, his daughter, 30 Nov. 1773, *æt*. 24.
III. Mary Deacon, wife of the above, 20 May 1796, *æt*. 86.
Adjoining the chapel yard is a house and garden for the
officiating minister.

BENEFACTIONS. (Vide p. 117). **CHIVAL'S CHARITY.** Catherine and Elizabeth Chival by deed in 1708 conveyed to trustees about fourteen acres of unclosed ground in the common fields of Roade and Ashton, in trust to pay the rents and profits on Christmas day yearly to the poor inhabitants of Roade at the discretion of the minister, churchwardens, and overseers. An allotment of 11a. 3r. 16p. of land in Roade was awarded by the commissioners of inclosure in lieu of the open field land; which was let for £13. 10s. *per ann.* on a lease of twenty-one years from 9 June 1817, and the rent laid out in coals which were given away weekly during the winter amongst the poor; but the lessee has surrendered the lease, and the land is now let out to the poor in lots from a rood to half an acre each, in proportion to their families.

THE FEOFFEE'S ESTATE has been conveyed to different feoffees in succession since the time of queen Elizabeth. It consists of four small cottages with a pigtle and garden annexed, let to poor persons at 10s. *per ann.* each. And an allotment of 10a. 2r. 12p. of land awarded on the inclosure, which was let for £12 *per ann.* on a lease of twenty-one years from 25 Mar. 1817. Prior to the inclosure, the rents were applied to many public uses of the town, or the inhabitants; and under the lease were laid out in coals, and distributed in the same manner as Chival's Charity; but the lease of this estate also has been surrendered, and the land let out to the poor in the same proportions as the other charity.

HIDE OR HYDE,

so denominated from a *hide* of land of which it was originally composed. It lies on the western side of the parish, bordering on Blisworth, and contains about 100 acres, of which about 63 acres belong to Mr. Stephen Warwick, and about 36 acres to the corporation of Northampton.

MANORIAL HISTORY. **BAIEUX FEE.** At the domesday survey one *Stephen* held a *hide* in "Rode" of the bishop of Baieux, which lay waste, and was then in the hands of the king¹. The paramourcy after the forfeiture by the bishop was acquired by the family of Chokes.

MANOR. In the hydariūm of Hen. 2, *William Rufus* was certified to hold four small virgates of land at Hyda^m; but it is not stated of whom he held, and he was probably only the tenant of the abbot and convent of St. James near Northampton, to whom Hyda juxta Roda was given by Walter de Preston^a of PRESTON DEANRY who lived in the reign of Henry II. His son Gilbert de Preston confirmed the grant^a, which was further ratified by Anselm de Chokes^a, the paramount lord. Michael de Preston son of Gilbert also confirmed the donation^a, and Walter de Preston son of Michael, for the health of his soul and of his wife Hawise, quitclaimed to the abbot and convent 12s. yearly rent out of the land of Hyde in the parish of Rode^a. King Henry II. in his confirmation charter granted and confirmed to them sixty acres which they had assarted at Hyda and Rothelant^p, or Rode land; and R. de Paveley and Matilda his wife and Muriel his mother, for the souls of Geoffrey de Paveley and Gilbert de Manchesi [Malquincy], gave them fifty acres near Hida^a. At the hundred court for Cleley in 31 Hen. 6 (1452) suit and service was claimed from the manor of Hyde juxta Rode; but the jurors presented that it did not owe suit to the said hundred court, nor did a toft with certain lands in Hartwell belonging to the nuns of de Pratis [Delapre], and the roll of the grant from Walter de Preston being produced, witnessed that the said manor was given in perpetual alms^a. After the dissolution, the manor of Hide was granted (*int. al.*) in 4 Edw. 6 (1550) to Richard Fernor, esq.^a of Easton Newton, whose great-grandson sir *Hatton Fernor* sold it in the reign of James II. to *Stephen Hoe*, esq. and part of the estate is now in possession of Mr. *Stephen Warwick* one of his descendants.

THE MANOR HOUSE, in its dilapidated state, still retains an old arched porch, and over it a trefoil-headed square window with dripstone and corbels.

¹ Domesd. fo. 220.

^a Cotton MSS. Vesp. E. xxi. fo. 96.

^a Br. MSS. E. p. 391.

^a Ibid. p. 394.

^a Mon. Ang. 2, p. 49.

^a Br. MSS. E. p. 392.

^a Ibid. p. 401.

^a Pat. 28 Mar. 4 Edw. 6, p. 9.

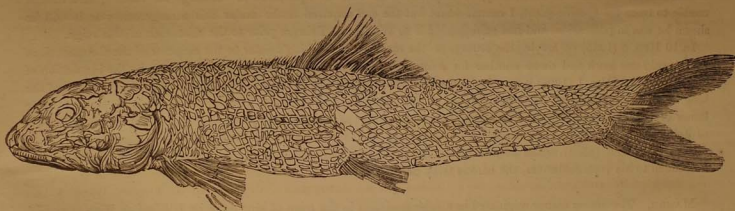
^a Vide HARTWELL, p. 183.

STOKE BRUERN.

in domesday Stocche, is the pure Saxon Stoc, a place or village, with the distinctive appellation Bruern, corrupted from Briwere or Bruere, the name of its ancient lords. Stoke with Shutlanger contains about 2250 acres; of which about 1180 acres belong to George-Henry duke of Grafton, K.G. lord of the manor; about 530 acres (in Shutlanger) to George-William-Richard earl of Pomfret, a minor; and about 400 acres to F. W. T. Vernon Wentworth, esq. of Stoke Park.

Stoke Park is old inclosure; the remainder of the lordship is still uninclosed, and is the only open field remaining in the south division of the county. Stoke and Shutlanger intercommon in Stoke great meadow near Alderton. The lordship is bounded on the north by Blisworth in Wymersley hundred, and north and north-east by Roade; east by Ashton; south by the river Tove which divides it from Grafton Regis, Alderton, and Paulerspury; and west by Easton Neston and Hulcote. The soil is principally a grey loam on limestone, varying to clay and gravel. On the south side of the lordship is some rich meadow land bordering on the Tove. The Plain woods belonging to the duke of Grafton, and the Park woods of Mr. Vernon Wentworth, extend to about 150 acres.

In working the ferruginous oolite of this lordship, over the head of the Grand Junction Tunnel, for the repair of the roads, the fish was disclosed which is represented the natural size in the accompanying woodcut. It is a new species, and has been named by professor Agassiz in his elaborate work on Fossil Fishes now in course of publication, the *Pholidophorus Flesheri*, as forming part of the local collection of Mr. Gilbert Flesher of Towcester, who obligingly submitted it to his inspection.



Bridges says, 'there is here a good chalybeate water, not inferior to the Wells at *Astrop*, and flowing in so large a quantity as to form the principal stream which turns a mill *.' This must be the mill mentioned in domesday, and called Twyford mill in the inquisitions of the Parles family in the fifteenth century ^b. It stood about a quarter of a mile north of the present windmill.

THE GRAND JUNCTION CANAL passes through this lordship, and the southern termination of the celebrated Blisworth tunnel is a short distance from the village. The exit from the dark channel is faced with brick and stone, and the ground above rises to a considerable height. The canal is carried on a level above the houses at the lower end of the village, which it intersects; and at the foot of the hill where it crosses the turnpike road from Northampton to Stony Stratford are seven locks to lift the navigation from the valley to the entrance of the tunnel.

LONGEVITY. Two remarkable instances of longevity occurred in this parish in the last century. In Dec. 1751 William Davis of Little Billing died at Shutlanger aged one hundred and fourteen years, retaining his faculties to the close of life ^c. And in Nov. 1775 died at Stoke, Mrs. Anne Cockbolt in her hundred and fourth year. Her senses were unimpaired, and she could see to read or even to make lace till within a few days of her death ^d.

MANORIAL HISTORY. SWAIN FEE. HONOR OF CASTLE ACRE. The proprietorship of Stocche in Claislea hundred cannot be traced beyond the domesday survey, when it was held in demesne by *Swain*, and contained four hides. The arable land was ten carucates; of which, one was in demesne; fourteen villeins with a *priest* and seven bordars; had five carucates; and the remaining four were waste or unaccounted for. There was a mill worth 13s. 4d. yearly; thirty acres of meadow; and a wood three furlongs long, and two and a half wide. It had been, and still was, rated

* Br. 1, p. 323.

^b Esc. 8 Hen. 5, n. 107; 19 Hen. 6, n. 23; & 30 Hen. 6, n. 15.

^c Northampton Mercury.

at £3 yearly^d. *Suain* is conjecturally identified by Bridges^e with *Suain* the son of *Aluric*, a great Yorkshire prior whose line terminated in the reign of Henry II. with two female coheirresses; but his real identity is placed beyond doubt by another entry in domesday, where *Suain the son of Azor* is introduced as holding twenty-one houses in Northampton worth 10s. *belonging to Stoches*^f; and which, it is deserving of notice, were the only houses in the borough, *THORP BY NORTON**, and was probably the same individual, divested of his patronymic, who has occurred at *HALSE* *Ulf* had *Houghton Parva* and *Brayfield*; and the Saxon possessions of his son *Suain*, the domesday lord of *Stoke*, *BILLING PARVA*†, *BILLING PARVA*‡.

Suain is a rare instance—a solitary one in this county—of a Saxon lord being admitted to hold in *capite* under the Norman conqueror. *Stoke* was his only manor. A tabular view of the possessions of three generations of a Saxon family cannot be often exhibited, and will not, it is presumed, be uninteresting.

LEFSI, Saxon lord of Aldwinckle & Lowick.....

Azor, son of Lefsi, Saxon lord of Thorp by Norton, Halse or Brackley, Siresham, Wyke Dyve, Newton (Bromswold), Alding.....

SUAIN, son of Azor, Saxon lord of Billing Parva, Cranley, Buckly, West Haddon, Cretton Magna, Rotherthorpe, Thorp by Norton, and Roade; and lord of Stoke Bruern temp. Will. conq.

ULF, son of Azor, Saxon lord of Houghton Parva, Brayfield, Rushton, Harrington, Weston on Weland, Arlingworth, Oxendon, Hardwick, and Chadston.

Suain probably left no descendants, for within half a century of domesday, *Stoke* had passed to the Norman family of *Malenci* or *Malquinci*, who were early benefactors to the abbey of St. James. In 13 Hen. 2 (1166) the sheriff of this county rendered an account of one mark for *Blisworth*, and half a mark for "Stock" from *Robert de Peissi*^h, who confirmed the grants by *Malenci* to the monks of St. James.

On the seizure by king John of the *Terra Normannorum*, or lands held by Normans in England, in retaliation for the loss of Normandy, an extent was made of the manor of "Stok" in Northamptonshire, late belonging to *John Pratell*ⁱ. The king assigned Grantham and Stamford in Lincolnshire, to *William* earl Warren and Surrey until he should recover his lands in Normandy, or until he made him an equivalent in exchange for them^k; and though unable to trace the specific grant, I cannot doubt but the earl acquired *Stoke* under this arrangement; as it will be shewn he was in possession, and had subinfeudated it to *William* de *Bruiere* prior to the thirteenth of this reign.

In 19 Hen. 3 (1235) on levying the scutage on the marriage of the king's sister to the emperor of the Romans, *Joan Bruere* paid one mark and owed another for a fee in *Stokes* of the fees of earl Warren^l; and by the inquiry of knight's fees 24 Edw. 1 (1295) it was found that the vill of *Stoke* was held for one fee of earl Warren, who held of the king by service unknown^m. The paramountcy of this manor appears to have been annexed by the Warrens to their honor of *Castle Acre* in Norfolk; for *Aymer de Valence* earl of Pembroke § having purchased that manor and castle of *John* earl Warrenⁿ, had the wardship and marriage of the coheirresses of *Combemartin*, the mesne lord^o, and died in 17 Edw. 2 (1323) seized of one fee in *Stoke Bruere* and *Alderton* of the honor of *Castle Acre*^p, which descended to his representatives, the barons Grey de *Ruthin*.

MANOR. The mesne manor originated in a subinfeudation in the reign of king John by *William* de *Warenn* earl of Surrey; who, by a deed without date, granted all the land of his fee in *Stokes*, *Sitelhangre*, and *Aldrintone* with whatever he or his antecessors had in the said lands in demesnes, fees, homages, reliefs, and all other services, to

William Bruere^q and his heirs, by the service of one knight's fee^r.

In introducing this deed under *ALDERTON* ||, it was inferred from the attestation of *Hubert* de *Burgh*, chief justiciary, that its date could not be prior to 16 Joh. (1214), the year in which he is recorded to have been elevated to this high office; it would seem, however, that he had an antecedent and unrecorded appointment—at least, this deed must be placed a few years earlier, for in the inquisition of services and tenants in *capite* throughout England taken in 12 & 13 Joh. *William Bruere* is returned to hold *Stokes* and *Sitelhangre*, late belonging to *Gerard* de *Manquenci*^s. This *William* de *Bruere* or *Bruiere* was in great favour with king Richard, who associated him with the bishops of *Durham* and *Ely* in the administration of the kingdom during his absence in the Holy land; and when that brave monarch was taken prisoner by the emperor of Germany, *Bruere* repaired to him and assisted in negotiating his ransom. He was equally a favorite with king John, and reaped from the bounty of the two sovereigns a plentiful harvest of lucrative wardships and valuable grants. Besides numerous inferior manors, he obtained the boroughs of *Bridge-water* in *Somersetshire*, and *Chesterfield* in *Derbyshire*; and had licence to build three castles on his estates in *Hampshire*, *Somersetshire*, and *Devonshire*. The accumulation of sheriffalties of different counties obtained by him, which will be shewn in the subjoined pedigree, is perhaps, unprecedented, and is a proof of his powerful interest at a period when the office was frequently purchased from the crown, and coveted not merely as an honorable distinction, but a source of profit from the crown lands of which the sheriff was the steward, and from the fees arising from suitors in the county court, over which the sheriff was the presiding officer. *Bruere* died in 11 Hen. 3 (1226)^t and his son *William Bruere* paid 600 marks (£400) for his livery and relief^u. He survived but five years, when those of his five sisters who were living, and the heirs of those who were dead, succeeded to his inheritance. On a partition

^d Domesd. fo. 228.

^e Br. I, p. 322.

^f Domesd. fo. 219.

^g Br. MSS. E. p. 400 & 401.

^h Pip. North. 13 Hen. 2.

ⁱ Rot. Norman. 6 Joh. m. 177 n. 21.

^j Rot. Claus. 6 Joh. m. 4 n. 15.

^k Test. Nev. fo. 140.

^l Cardigan MSS. Nom. Vill. p. 89.

^m Blomefield's Norf. vol. 6, p. 359.

ⁿ Knightley evidences.

^o Ec. 17 Edw. 2, n. 75.

^p Hatton Portfolio, No. 85.

^q Cardigan MSS. H. p. 186.

^r Cardigan MSS. G. 3, p. 266, & Claus. 11 Hen. 3.

^s Dugd. Bar. 1, p. 702.

^t Rot. Pip. 11 Hen. 3.

^u Vide vol. 1, p. 423.

^v Vide vol. 1, p. 566.

^w Vide vol. 1, p. 25.

^x Vide Towerchest.

^y Vide p. 119.

amongst the coheirs the following year, the manors of Stockbridge and Somborne in Hampshire, and Stoke in Northamptonshire with £19, 14s. 0d. yearly rent out of Snetton in Nottinghamshire was allotted to the third sister.

Margaret, wife of William de la Ferté or Feritate*, subject to the dower of Joan Bruere her brother's widow, who had an assignment for life of all the Northamptonshire estates*, and in 19 Hen. 3 (1235) on levying the scutage on the marriage of the king's sister to the emperor of the Romans, paid one mark and owed another, for a fee in Stoke of the fees of earl Warren†.

Margaret de la Ferté had only one child, Gundreda, who married Pain or Pagan de Cadurcis or Chaworth, and in 21 Hen. 3 (1237) their son Patrick de Chaworth gave £500 to the king for the livery of the lands which descended to him from his father and from Margaret his grandmother‡. In 4 Edw. 1 (1276) his son Pagan de Chaworth, by a presentment of the jurors of the hundred, was found to have view of frank pledge and correction of the assize of bread and beer in Stok Bruer§. The following year he commanded a successful expedition against the Welch; but died in 7 Edw. 1 (1278) unmarried, and was succeeded by his brother Patrick de Chaworth¶. He died in 11 Edw. 1 (1282) seized of the manors of Stoke Bruer, Schitlanger, and Aldrinton, with the advowsons of Stoke and Aldrinton, all held of the earl Warren by the service of one fee, leaving an infant daughter and heiress Matilda or Maud§, who in 27 Edw. 1 (1298) was united to

Henry of Lancaster, the king's nephew¶, and brother and heir of Thomas earl of Lancaster. At this time the attainder of his brother continued in force, and was not reversed till the accession of king Edward III. when he was restored to the earldom*. By deed dated at Stoke Bruere in June 34 Edw. 1 (1306) he simply styling himself Henry de Lancaster, with Matilda his wife, conveyed the manors and advowsons of Stoke Bruere and Aldrinton, with all appurtenances as well in demesne as in services without any reservation, to

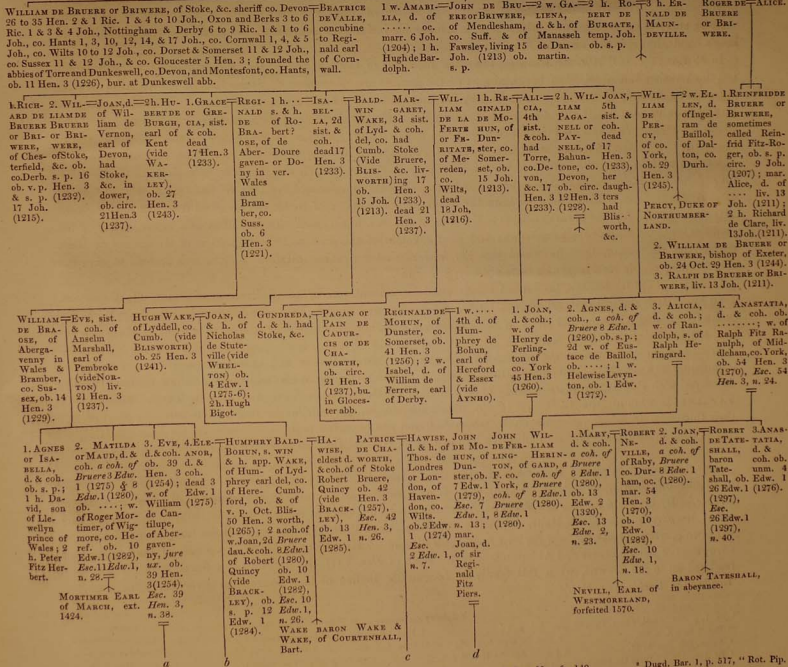
William de Coumbeartin in fee tail, remainder to Henry son of Richard de Coumbeartin, remainder to Nicholas son of Henry de Coumbeartin in fee tail, remainder to the said William in fee†.

BRUERE OR BRIWERE, BRAOSE OR BREWSE, WAKE, FERTE OR FERITATE, AND CADURCIS OR CHAWORTH MOHUN, AND PERCY.

From Dugdale's Baronage and Monasticon, with additions from public records, and other authorities.

ARMOR. BRUERE. Gules, two bendy wavy Or. BRAOSE. Azure, crusily of cross crozettes, a lion rampant crowned Or. WAKE. Or, two bars Gules, in chief three Tortoisures. FERITATE. two crozettes CHAWORTH. Barry of ten Argent and Gules, an erle of martlets Salt. MOHUN. Gules, a maunch Ermine, the hand Proper holding a fleur-de-lis Argent. PERCY. Azure, five fessils in fess Or.

..... BRUERE OR BRIWERE, of co. Devon.....



* Cardigan MSS. G. 3, p. 335. † Claus. 17 Hen. 3, m. 8.†

† Hen. 3, m. 8.†

† Hen. 3, m. 8.†

* Esq. 25 Edw. 1, m. 55.

* Rot. Hund. 4 Edw. 1.

* Esq. 7 Edw. 1, m. 7.

* Esq. 11 Edw. 1, m. 35.

* Dugd. Bar. 1, p. 517.

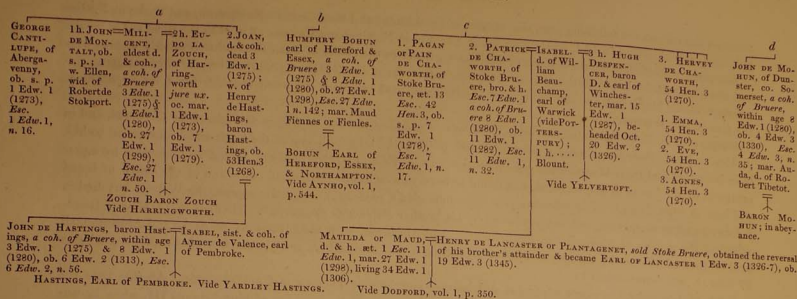
* Knightly evidence.

* Dugd. Bar. 1, p. 517.

* Knightly evidence.

* Knightly evidence.

CLELEY HUNDRED.



In 9 Edw. 2 (1315) *William de Coumbemartin* was certified to be lord of Stoke Bruere, Shitlenger, and Alderton[†], and in 12 Edw. 2 (1318) Aymer de Valence, earl of Pembroke, the paramount lord, in consideration of 600 marks (£400) granted to *Margery*, widow of the said William, the custody of those manors held of the honor of Castle Acre, with the wardship and marriage of Alice, Isabel, and Joan, the three daughters and coheirresses[‡]. *Margery* afterwards married *Adam de Cortenhele*, who in 3 Edw. 3 (1329) was summoned by writ of *Quo Warranto* to shew by what right he claimed view of frank pledge, infangtheof, and wayf in his manor of Stokbruere with its members; when he pleaded it was the free tenement of *Margery* his wife, and gave the king 10s. that she might be permitted to claim with him. After reciting the purchase from Lancaster and Matilda his wife, and that on the death of Combe-martin, the former husband of *Margery*, the manor descended to his three daughters *Alice*, then wife of John de Oxenford, *Isabel*, then wife of William de St. John, and *Joan*, then wife of Andrew de St. Liz, in custody of Aymer de Valence, by whom the third part of the manor was assigned to *Margery* in dower, who purchased the other two parts for life from the coheirs; they pleaded prescription for the above liberties, and prayed aid of the coheirs, who were accordingly summoned, but did not appear. The jurors presented that the claimants were entitled to the said privileges, but having punished offenders against the assize of bread and beer by fine of 2s. instead of pillory and tumbrel, and not having a gallows, which is an indispensable incident to infangtheof, the privileges were taken into the king's hands, but restored again for a fine of half a mark[§].

In 38 Edw. 3 (1364) *Alice de Staunton*, the eldest coheirress of Coumbemartin, then widow of sir John de Staunton her third husband, died seised of the third part of the manors and advowsons of Stoke Bruere and Alderton, leaving *John* son of John de Oxenford her grandson by her first husband, her heir aged eleven years[¶]; who it is presumed, died in his minority; for *Walter Cheshunt* her son by her second husband[‡] in the fortieth year of this reign remitted to *Richard Wydeville*^{*} and his heirs all right in a third part of the Manors of Stoke Bruere and Alderton, and in the advowsons of the churches belonging to them[¶]. From this *Richard Wydeville* this third part of the Manor descended to *John Wydeville* his son[¶], who in the sixteenth year of Ric. II. was found by inquisition to be the right-ful possessor of it, by virtue of his father's purchase[¶]. *Thomas Wideville* of GRAFTON, esq. by his will 12 Oct. 13 Hen. 6 (1434) directed his executors to keep the manor and advowson of Stoke Bruere till they had paid thereout 200 marks (£133. 6s. 8d.) to his executors to the uses of his will, or till those who pretended title to the manor by tail paid the said 200 marks to his executors; and after payment of this sum, and the expiration of an annuity of 100s. charged on the manor, then he willed that his executors should "make astate to theyme that pretend to have the emheryance of the seyd maner be tayle accordyng ther to!"

In 2 Hen. 4 (1401) *Isabella*, the second coheirress of Coumbemartin, by the description of widow of William St. John[†],—though she had two subsequent husbands,—died seised of the third part of the manors and advowsons of Stoke Bruere and Alderton, and lands in Shitlenger, leaving her granddaughter *Margaret* wife of William Harwedon, esq. her heir, aged thirty years^m.

From her, these portions of the manors and advowsons of Stoke Bruere and Alderton, described in subsequent inquisitions as a moietyⁿ, the disputed third having, I presume, been surrendered by Wideville's executors, lineally descended with PLUMPTON to *Joan* daughter and heiress of Henry Skenard, esq. wife of sir Richard Knightley of PAWSLEY[†]; who, in Nov. 12 Hen. 8 (1520) settled the manors and advowsons of Stoke Bruere and Alderton on their third son sir Edmund Knightley^o, by whom Alderton was conveyed to

The King in 30 Hen. 8 (1538)^p and Stoke (int. al.) in 34 Hen. 8 (1542) in exchange for the manors of Badby and Newnham^q.

Joan, the third coheirress of Coumbemartin, had three husbands. By her second, she had sir John Chastillon^r who by inquisition taken in the sixteenth year of Ric. II. was found to be intitled to a third part of the Manor of Stoke Bruere[†]. By her third husband sir John de Wolverton, to whom she was second wife, she had two daughters; the eldest *Margaret* married John Hunt, and had an only daughter and heiress *Joan*, wife of John Longueville of LITTLE BILLING^s, whose great-grandson *Richard Longueville* died in 36 Hen. 6 (1457) seised of a moiety of the manors and advowsons of Stoke Bruere and Alderton^t. 'In the reign of Hen. VIII. this lordship by a forced exchange was surrendered up to the Crown^u, when this family of Longueville, in lieu of their share, had given them the priory of Bradwell in Buckinghamshire.'

[†] Cardigan MSS. "Nou. Vill. p. 9."

[‡] Br. 1, p. 324, & Rot. Claus. anno 40 Edw. III. p. 1.

[§] Esc. 2 Hen. 4, n. 33.

[¶] Augm. Off. Bos. A. 17.

[¶] Br. 1, p. 325.

[¶] Vide GRAYTON, p. 166.

[¶] Knightley evidences.—Quo Warr. 3 Edw. 3.

[¶] Ibid. 'Reg. Joh. Buckingham Ep. Lin.'.

[¶] Esc. 26 Hen. 6, n. 27, Esc. 19 Edw. 4, n. 68, & Esc. 3 Hen. 7, n. 32.

[¶] Pat. 25 Apr. 34 Hen. 6, p. 1.

[¶] Br. 1, p. 324, 'Tab. General'.

[¶] From the information of Sir Edo. Longueville to Browne Willis, Esq.

[¶] Vide PLUMPTON, p. 96.

[¶] Vide FAWLEY, vol. 1, p. 241.

[¶] Vide vol. 1, p. 27.

[¶] Esc. 38 Edw. 3, n. 41.

[¶] 1. Female evidences.

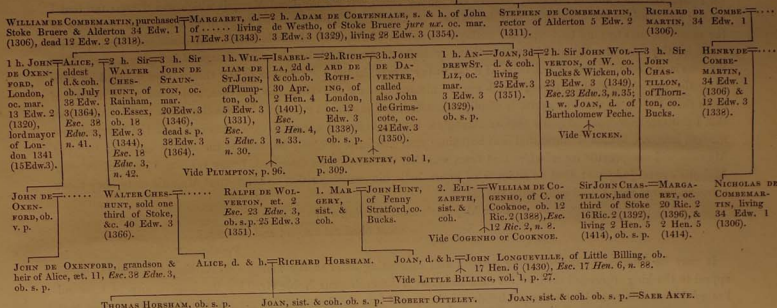
[¶] Knightley evidences.

[¶] Esc. 37 Hen. 6, n. 28.

From Knightley evidences, public records, and other authorities.

Arms. COMMEMARTIN. Gules, a lion rampant vairy Or and Azure. OXENFORD. Quarterly Gules and Or, a fess Argent. ST. JOHN. Gules, two bars Azure, a canton Ermine. WOLVERTON. Azure, an eagle displayed Or, debriused by a bend Gules.

..... COMMEMARTIN, of London. $\overline{\text{T}}$



ST. JAMES'S ABBEY near Northampton had of the gift of Gerard son of Geoffrey de Malenci or Malquind one virgate of his manor of Stochie lying near Hyde, twenty-three acres of assarts of his wood, a meadow, and common pasture with his men of Stochie¹; which was confirmed by his son Geoffrey by deed without date, but which the attestation of William archdeacon of Northampton fixes between 1144 (9 Steph.) and 1168 (14 Hen. 2)²; and ratified by Robert de Peissi by deed witnessed by Robert (Querceto) bishop of Lincoln³, who presided within the same period. Sibilla daughter of Milo de Beauchamp gave the abbot and convent a virgate of land in Stoke Bruere⁴; which Mary wife of Henry de Matlath and daughter of Sibilla de Beauchamp quitclaimed to them⁵. In 35 Edw. 3 (1361) Henry de Bosenoh of Schytellang⁶ made a feoffment of all that wood called Schawe wod in the parish of Stoke Bruere⁷; and in 47 Edw. 3 (1373) the feoffees conveyed a hundred acres of wood called Schawe wod in Stoke Bruere⁸; which John de Pateshull formerly held, to Richard Wydeville of Grafton⁹. In 21 Hen. 6 (1442) Nicholas Wymbush, clerk, and his co-feoffees, pursuant to the will of Thomas Wideliv, esq^r, grandson of the above Richard, granted the hermitage of Grafton with its possessions, including the wood called "La Shavode" to abbot William and the convent of St. James¹⁰. In 14 Eliz. (1572) John Mershe and Francis Grencham had a grant (int. al.) of a "little piece" of land in "Stoke Bruern" between the park and the river, late belonging to Edmund Knightley¹¹, which Bridges supposed to be the St. James's abbey lands¹²; but Shaw wood and the abbey lands formed part of the Fernor estate in Stoke, and some of the original grants to the monastery still remain amongst the family muniments at Easton Neston.

THE HOSPITAL OF ST. JOHN OF JERUSALEM had lands in Stoke Bruere, and Shitelhanger, and in 3 Edw. 3 (1329) the prior's tenants there were members of his view of frank pledge at Furtho^c.

STOKE was annexed to the honor of Grafton on its first erection in 33 Hen. 8 (1541), and a sectional court is held there for Stoke Bruern and Shutlanger.

STOKE PARK contains about four hundred acres. In 54 Hen. 3 (1270) Pagan de Chaworth had licence to enclose his wood of Stoke in Northamptonshire^d, which I presume was the origin of Stoke park. It remained attached to the manorial estate till 5 Car. (1629), when the king "in consideration of the good, true, faithful, and acceptable service performed for him by

Sir Francis Crane, Knight, Chancellor of the order of the garter, and for divers other good causes and considerations," granted to him in fee the park of "Stoke Breverne" with all lands known by the name of the Park, and all deer, and free warren.⁴ This enterprising speculator first introduced into England the manufacture of tapestry, which he established at Mortlake in Surrey in the reign of king James I. principally at the suggestion of the prince of Wales and Villiers, then marquis of Buckingham. The outlay of capital, and inadequacy of return, having reduced him to

* Br. MSS. E. p. 400. * Ibid. p. 401. † Ibid.—and Fermor evidences. ‡ Fermor evidences. § Rot. Pat. 14 Eliz. p. 4.
 Br. 1, p. 325. ¶ Quo Warr. 3 Edw. 3. ¶ Esc. (ad q. d.) 54 Hen. 3, n. 49. ¶ Pat. 25 July 5 Car. p. 4, n. 26.
 * Vide GRAYTON REGIS, p. 162. † Vide p. 162. ‡ Vide p. 171.
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a state of serious pecuniary embarrassment, he addressed a most urgent epistle to the king, entreating his immediate assistance; "I beseech your Majestie, that the reasons which have begott this holdnes may excuse it, which are these: 1. I cannot thinke but that your Majestie affects the continuance of the busynesse of the Tapestries, which in the eye of the world appears as a worke of your Majestie's greatnes, and brings with it both honor to your Majestie and profit to the Kingdome. 2. The Prince and my Lord Marquis both (to whom a little before their journey I represented my necessities and the impossibility of continuing the worke unless I were assisted in it) gave me commandment to keepe the busynesse a foote, and promised me for the present to keepe the fire goinge, (which was the Prince's own phrase), that I should instantly receive the money layed out for my Lord Marquis which was £3200 and that I should have besides the benefit of two Sergeants. 3. The Prince gave me order to go in hande with a riche suit of the moneths, and to send to Genoa for certayne drawings of *Raphaell of Urbini* which were desseignes for Tapestries made for Pope Leo the Xth and for which there is £300 to be payed, besides their charge of bringing home. Now Sir here is my case. I would not fayle (if it lay in my power) in the performance of any thinge, thus affected by your Majestie, or commanded by them; but I am out already above £16,000 in this busynesse, and never made retorne of more than £2500, so that my estate is wholly exhausted, and my credit so spent, besides the debts that lye upon me, moneth longer. Which I durst not but acquainte your Majestie withall, because, if the course intended by your Majestie will not provide for it before that time, and that the busynesse be dissolved, I may yet stand justified in your Majestie's royal judgment, that no endeavor of myne hath bin wanting either to serve your Majestie or to obey those commandments that I hold equal with the life of

Your Majestie's most faithfull and
most obedient subject and servant,

Fr. Crane."

It may be inferred by the following grateful and interesting letter to the marquis of Buckingham, that the above appeal to the king succeeded through his mediation: "I beseech your Noble Gr. That the importunity of a second I've web before this time is come to yo^r hands may be turned into thanks, and that my necessities web appeared in that may serve to lett yo^r lp see how great a favour yo^a have done me. The Kinge tells me he will dispatche the busynesse before his going from Whitehall; if he do so, the Tapestries will then be out of danger, and the poore Estate I have left wilbe safe. Howsoever yo^r Gr's parte calls from me for whatsoever can be due from the most thankfull hearte, and that I will paye not only wth my Vowes but wth the best service I can do you. I am one of those that do holde reputacō to be a better parte of a man's fortune than wealth; and therefore, seeing yo^r Gr. hath so nobly added to me in that kinde, yo^a may be sure to have caste so stronge a knott of gratitude upon me that nothing in the world can undoe it. I beseech yo^r Gr. that for this particular yo^a will returne my humblest thanks to his High^s that as by yo^r Gr's meanes the favor descended from him, so by the same my thanks may ascende to him. And though I do not (as most men do) undertake more in an hower than a whole life doth comonly performe, yet thus farre I beseech yo^r Gr. to stand bounde for me to his High^s that I will do him the best service I can and never fayle him in the performance of those duties that either faith or diligence shall enable me to do him. It is not my obligacō alone but my affection to his person that tyes me to this; for in me Love to the Kinge and Alexander both are mett together. Therefore though yo^r Gr. enter into this Bonde for me yet yo^a shalbe sure never to forfeite it, no more than I will the Everlasting Bonde by w^{ch} yo^r Gr. hath so justly made me

Yo^r Gr's most faithfull and
most humble servant,

Fr. Crane."

The 12 of April 1623.

"To the handes of the right hon^{ble} my most noble L. the L. Marquis of Buckingham L. Highe Admiral of England."

In a subsequent letter to his noble patron then duke of Buckingham he recommends him to embark in a mining speculation, and in conclusion alludes to his own prospects and spirit of adventure.

"It may please yo^r Grace,

I have acquainted Sr W^m Heydon wth the dessein, and finde by him that his skill was needfull to mee wth my affection. It is true that the desire I had to mee wth any thinge that might adde to the glory or greatnes of my M^r made me to ready to putt on the greatest hopes and to thinke that this was worthe the employment of any man w^{ch} made me name him; But I finde by what he tells me of the Nature of Mynes and the state of those partes that a present returre cannot be hoped for, so that if at this present there be nothing needfull but the discovery whether my informacō be true or no it will not according to yo^r Graces opinion be any way worthy of him. I have therefore given over thinking of him for the present, and must now humbly leave it to yo^r Graces iudgment whether upon the groundes delivered the busynesse be not fitt to be layed holde on; and if it be, whether according to the order web I have putt it into (wth web I have thoroughly acquainted him) it will not be fitt to use some such means for the discovery as he can and will advise yo^r Grace. To web I neede add nothing more because I have intreated him to take my p^t upon him till I wayte on yo^r Grace againe. I am now gone to Mortlake to meeete the Persian Ambassador to see whether we may not establish some trade of or Comodity into those parts. By this you see that I was destined for adventures. For my owne particular it will be the best of good turnes if yo^a can drawe me out of the disgrace I am falling into. Howsoever I am and wilbe as long as I live

Yo^r Graces
most faithfull and most
humble servant,
F. Crane.

Y^e Grace will pardon
my hasty scribbling.

for the most noble Duke of Buckingham."

¹ Br. 1, p. 328, ² From the Original penes R. Harding Rector, do Ashton who married into the *Arundell* family.

³ Harleian MSS. 1581, art. 66.

⁴ Ibid. 118.

By the concluding paragraph it is evident sir Francis had again relapsed into difficulties, and the epistle, which is undated, was therefore most probably written towards the close of king James's reign; for the royal bounty was promptly extended to him by king Charles, who by letters patent in his first year, reciting that he was indebted to him £6000 for three suits of gold tapestry and was graciously pleased to contribute to the furtherance and maintenance of his works at Mortlake, granted to him an annuity of £2000 for ten years charged on the duchy of Cornwall, provided if at any time within that term he should pay at one entire payment so much, as with what had been already received of the annuity would amount to the £6000 with interest at 8 per cent. the annuity of £1000 for the debt should cease, but the other £1000 of the annuity should remain for the support of his undertaking¹. The concern now became prosperous and lucrative. It appears by king Charles's catalogue drawn up by Vanderdelt that five of the cartoons were sent to Mortlake to be copied in tapestry, and were put up at Hampton Court where they still remain. A suit of hangings representing the five senses, manufactured here, was in the palace at Oatlands and sold for £270 in 1649. Williams archbishop of York paid him £2500 for the four seasons. The beautiful hangings at lord Orford's at Houghton containing whole-lengths of king James, king Charles, their queens, and the king of Denmark, with heads of the royal children in the borders, are supposed to have been the production of this place. And at the late duke of Dorset's at Knole is a piece of tapestry wrought in silk containing the portraits of Vandeyck and sir Francis himself. In Mar. 1626-7 he had a grant in fee of the lordship of Grafton, and the manors of Hartwell, Alderton, Blisworth, Stoke Bruern, Ashton, Greens Norton, Potterspury, and More End², but surrendered the grant in 1635³. Stoke Park was granted to him in 1629; and besides considerable estates in Norfolk, which, I suspect, was his native county, he purchased in this county the site and demesne lands of St. Andrew's priory in Northampton in 1631, and Hartwell park in 1633. He had a joint patent with Frances duchess dowager of Richmond and Lenox for the exclusive coining and issue of farthing tokens for seventeen years. He was appointed chancellor of the order of the Garter in 1631, and by his will in 1635 founded five Alms-Knights in addition to the poor Knights of Windsor, bequeathing a sum of money for the erection of five houses within the castle for their residence, and setting on each Knight a yearly rentcharge of £40. He went to Paris to undergo an operation for the stone in 1635, and died there in June following, but was brought to England, and buried at Wood Rising in Norfolk. He was at that time engaged in a suit in the star chamber with sir Robert Osborn, an old servant of king James who was tenant or lessee of the royal manor of Grafton Regis, and had mortgaged his interest in it to him for £7500. The decision was in his favor, for in 1637 his widow dame Mary Crane is described of Grafton⁴, and the year following had a grant⁵ of the mansion of Grafton for life at the yearly rent of 10s.

Sir Francis dying without issue was succeeded by his brother *Richard Crane*, esq. created a BARONET in 1642-3. On his decease issueless, his Norfolk estates and Hartwell Park, subject to his widow's jointure, and an annuity of £400 for life to his nephew *Frances Arundel*, esq. under a settlement made by him in Mar. 1638-9⁶, devolved to his eldest sister's only child *Frances* and her husband *William Crane*, esq.; and Stoke Park, and the site and demesnes of St. Andrew's priory, Northampton, to his youngest sister's eldest son

Francis Arundel, esq. on whom *William Crane*, esq. and *Frances* his wife, in consideration of his relinquishing the above annuity, settled Hartwell park in 1644-5⁷. He died in 1654, and the Crane Northamptonshire estates lineally descended undivided to his great-grandson *Thomas Arundel*, esq. on whose decease in 1733, the St. Andrew's priory estate passed to his cousin and heir male *Francis Arundel*, of the Inner Temple, esq.; and Stoke Park and Hartwell Park to his only sister and heiress *Elizabeth*, successively the wife of *William Pickering*, esq. and the rev. *Joseph Tor-diffe*, who devised them to

Lady *Henrietta Harriet Vernon*, wife of *Henry Vernon*, of Hilton Hall in Staffordshire, esq.

CRANE, OF STOKE PARK, BARONET; AND ARUNDEL, OF STOKE PARK.

From title deeds, parish register of Stoke Bruern*, and other authorities.

Arms. CRANE OF STOKES PARK. Per bend Or and Azure. CRANE OF LOUGHTON. Gules, on a fess between three crosses patée fished Or, as many annulets Azure. Crest. A demi-hind Or, ducally gorged Azure. ARUNDEL. Sable, six swallows Argent, three, two, and one. Crest. A wolf passant Argent.

..... CRANE, of Loughton, co. Bucks. CRANE, of Stoke Park, co. Bucks. ARUNDEL, of Stoke Park, co. Bucks.			
JOHN CRANE, MARY, eldest d. of Thomas Cranke, esq. clerk of the kitchen to king James I. & Charles I. living 1631, et. 75.				1. SIR FRANCIS CRANE, of Woodrising, co. Norfolk, esq. created baronet 1629, will dat. 27 Oct. 1635, ob. 10 July 1636.				1. MARY, living 1531; w. of ... Folkes, of Bulwick.			
2. THOMAS CRANE, of Stoke Park, esq. created baronet 1629, will dat. 27 Oct. 1635, ob. 10 July 1636.				3. ROBERT CRANE, of Stoke Park, esq. created baronet 1629, will dat. 27 Oct. 1635, ob. 10 July 1636.				2. ANNE, w. of Francis Arundel, of Stoke Park, esq.			
3. HENRY CRANE, of Stoke Park, esq. created baronet 1629, will dat. 27 Oct. 1635, ob. 10 July 1636.				4. VALENTINE CRANE, living 1631.				3. DOROTHY, living 1631; w. of ... Davenport, of Wellesbourne, co. Warw.			
4. FRANCIS CRANE, of Stoke Park, esq. created baronet 1629, will dat. 27 Oct. 1635, ob. 10 July 1636.				5. FRANCIS CRANE, of Stoke Park, esq. created baronet 1629, will dat. 27 Oct. 1635, ob. 10 July 1636.				4. FRANCES, w. of ... Hilder, of London.			
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6. VALENTINE CRANE, living 1631.				7. ... CRANE, living 1631.				1. FRANCIS ARUNDEL, of Roodes, bar. at Stoke Park, esq. created baronet 1629, will dat. 27 Oct. 1635, ob. 10 July 1636.			
7. ... CRANE, living 1631.				1. WILLIAM CRANE, of Loughton, co. Bucks, mar. at Stoke Park, esq. & of Woodrising, co. Norfolk, esq. re. leased Hartwell Park to P. Arundel, esq. 1644-5, living 1665.				2. ANNE, d. of John Arundel, of Stoke Park, esq. created baronet 1629, will dat. 27 Oct. 1635, ob. 10 July 1636.			
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4. FRANCES, w. of ...											

CLELEY HUNDRED.

FRANCIS WILLIAM MARY. ELIZA. JANE. CRANE. CRANE. BETH.

1. FRANCIS ARNOLD, del. of Stoke Park, esq. bapt. 3 May 1676, M.P. for Northampton 1704 to 1710, ob. 18 Jan. 1723-4.	2. JOHN ARNOLD, del. of Stoke Park, esq. bapt. 3 May 1676, M.P. for Northampton 1704 to 1710, ob. 18 Jan. 1723-4.	3. JOHN ARNOLD, del. of Stoke Park, esq. bapt. 3 May 1676, M.P. for Northampton 1704 to 1710, ob. 18 Jan. 1723-4.	4. JOHN ARNOLD, del. of Stoke Park, esq. bapt. 3 May 1676, M.P. for Northampton 1704 to 1710, ob. 18 Jan. 1723-4.	5. THO. ELIZABETH, del. of Stoke Park, esq. bapt. 3 May 1676, M.P. for Northampton 1704 to 1710, ob. 18 Jan. 1723-4.	6. CHARLES ARNOLD, del. of Stoke Park, esq. bapt. 3 May 1676, M.P. for Northampton 1704 to 1710, ob. 18 Jan. 1723-4.	7. DOROTHY, del. of Stoke Park, esq. bapt. 3 May 1676, M.P. for Northampton 1704 to 1710, ob. 18 Jan. 1723-4.	8. MARY, del. of Stoke Park, esq. bapt. 3 May 1676, M.P. for Northampton 1704 to 1710, ob. 18 Jan. 1723-4.	9. ANNE, del. of Stoke Park, esq. bapt. 3 May 1676, M.P. for Northampton 1704 to 1710, ob. 18 Jan. 1723-4.	10. MARY, del. of Stoke Park, esq. bapt. 3 May 1676, M.P. for Northampton 1704 to 1710, ob. 18 Jan. 1723-4.
THOMAS ARNOLD, del. of Stoke Park, esq. bapt. 3 May 1676, M.P. for Northampton 1704 to 1710, ob. 18 Jan. 1723-4.	11. HENRY ARNOLD, del. of Stoke Park, esq. bapt. 3 May 1676, M.P. for Northampton 1704 to 1710, ob. 18 Jan. 1723-4.	12. JOHN ARNOLD, del. of Stoke Park, esq. bapt. 3 May 1676, M.P. for Northampton 1704 to 1710, ob. 18 Jan. 1723-4.	13. JOHN ARNOLD, del. of Stoke Park, esq. bapt. 3 May 1676, M.P. for Northampton 1704 to 1710, ob. 18 Jan. 1723-4.	14. JOHN ARNOLD, del. of Stoke Park, esq. bapt. 3 May 1676, M.P. for Northampton 1704 to 1710, ob. 18 Jan. 1723-4.	15. JOHN ARNOLD, del. of Stoke Park, esq. bapt. 3 May 1676, M.P. for Northampton 1704 to 1710, ob. 18 Jan. 1723-4.	16. JOHN ARNOLD, del. of Stoke Park, esq. bapt. 3 May 1676, M.P. for Northampton 1704 to 1710, ob. 18 Jan. 1723-4.	17. JOHN ARNOLD, del. of Stoke Park, esq. bapt. 3 May 1676, M.P. for Northampton 1704 to 1710, ob. 18 Jan. 1723-4.	18. JOHN ARNOLD, del. of Stoke Park, esq. bapt. 3 May 1676, M.P. for Northampton 1704 to 1710, ob. 18 Jan. 1723-4.	19. JOHN ARNOLD, del. of Stoke Park, esq. bapt. 3 May 1676, M.P. for Northampton 1704 to 1710, ob. 18 Jan. 1723-4.

Lady Henrietta Harriet Vernon died in 1786, having by will in 1779 devised Stoke Park and Hartwell park to her youngest son *Levison Vernon*, esq. who died unmarried in 1831, and was succeeded by his nephew and heir *Frederick William Thomas Vernon-Wentworth*, esq. the present proprietor (1835).

VERNON-WENTWORTH, OF STOKE PARK.

From title deeds, information of the family, and other authorities.

Arms. Quarterly: 1 & 4, WENTWORTH, Sable, a chevron between three leopard's heads Or, crescent Argent for difference; 2d for VERNON, Argent, a fret Sable, a crescent Gules for difference; 3d for VERNON, of Haslington, co. Chester, on a fess Azure three garbs of the First. *Crest.* A griffin passant with wings expanded Argent, beaked and legged Gules. *Motto.* En Dieu est tout.

HENRY VERNON, of Milton, co. Staff. esq. 3d s. of Henry Vernon, of Houndskill, co. MARGARET, d. of William Lad-10 Apr. 1711. Staff. esq., of Hill, d. & h. of sir George Vernon, of Haslington, co. Chester, ob. 1699.

1. HENRY VERNON, of—PENNELOPE, 2d d. & coh. of Hilton, co. Staff. esq. ob. Robert Phillips, of Newton, co. Staff. bur. at Sharnhall, Wars. esq. ob. 25 Jan. 1726, bur. at Sharnhall.	2. EDWARD VERNON, of London, esq. ob. 1745.	3. GEORGE VERNON, ob. s. p.	4. THOMAS VERNON, of London, esq. ob. 1742, ret. 70.
1. HENRY VERNON, of—HARRIET, 2d d. & coh. of Hilton, co. Staff. esq. ob. 18 Sept. 1714, M.P. for Lichfield 1754 to 1761, Newcastle under Line 1761 to 1763, bur. at Sharnhall, co. Staff.	2. THOMAS PHILLIPS VERNON, esq. b. 20 Nov. 1719, ob. at Constantinople June 1787.	3. JOHN VERNON, of London, esq. ob. 1746, bur. at Sharnhall, co. Staff.	4. EDWARD VERNON, of London, esq. ob. 1746, bur. at Sharnhall, co. Staff.



1. W. PENNELOPE, of—HENRY, 2d d. & coh. of Hilton, co. Staff. esq. ob. 18 Sept. 1714, M.P. for Lichfield 1754 to 1761, Newcastle under Line 1761 to 1763, bur. at Sharnhall, co. Staff.	2. W. MARGARET, of—HARRIET, 2d d. & coh. of Hilton, co. Staff. esq. ob. 18 Sept. 1714, M.P. for Lichfield 1754 to 1761, Newcastle under Line 1761 to 1763, bur. at Sharnhall, co. Staff.	3. W. WILLIAM VERNON, of—HARRIET, 2d d. & coh. of Hilton, co. Staff. esq. ob. 18 Sept. 1714, M.P. for Lichfield 1754 to 1761, Newcastle under Line 1761 to 1763, bur. at Sharnhall, co. Staff.	4. W. LEVISON VERNON, of—HARRIET, 2d d. & coh. of Hilton, co. Staff. esq. ob. 18 Sept. 1714, M.P. for Lichfield 1754 to 1761, Newcastle under Line 1761 to 1763, bur. at Sharnhall, co. Staff.
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HENRY CHARLES EDWARD LIGONIER—MARIA, 4th dau. of George Ligonier, of Stoke Park, esq. adopted the name and arms of GRAHAM Cooke, of Harefield Park, co. Middle. esq. mar. at Geneva 22 Sept. 1779, a colonel in the army, living 1835.

1. HENRY CHARLES—CATHERINE, youngest dau. of VERNON GRAHAM, Richard Williams, of Cardiff, co. Glamorgan, mar. at Llan-1828, living 1835.	2. MARIA—WILLIAM VERNON GRAHAM, born 7 Nov. 1807, living 1835.	3. GEORGE AUGUSTUS VERNON GRAHAM, born 1 May 1811, living 1835.	4. EMMA PELOPE, born 21 Apr. 1814, living 1835.	5. THOMAS FREDERICK CHARLES VERNON, born 20 Oct. 1831, living 1835.	6. LOTUS HARRIET, born 4 July 1838, living 1835.
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1. HENRY VERNON GRAHAM. 2. MARIA. 3. CATHERINE. 4. AUGUSTUS WILLIAM VERNON GRAHAM, ob. Inf.

STOKE PARK HOUSE ' was built by sir Francis Crane, who brought the design from Italy, and in the execution of it received the assistance of *Ingulo Jones*. It was begun about the year 1630, and finished before 1636, during which interval he gave an entertainment here to the King and Queen. The south elevation extending two hundred and sixty feet is enclosed in Campbell's Vitruvius Britannicus, and consists of a body united to two lateral wings by long

corridors or galleries. Bridges says 'the pillars which support the galleries leading to the wings, are red, and of a different colour from the house m^o;' but this defect was remedied by the late Mr. Vernon, who slightly varied the original design, and cased the whole front with white freestone. The interior was also much improved and re-arranged. Amongst the family and other portraits are lady Hamilton, as a cottage girl sewing, *Romney*. A mother protecting her child, *Romney*. Dutch admiral De Ruyter. Thomas lord Raby, afterwards 3d earl of Strafford. The great earl of Strafford, with helmet and baton. Admiral Vernon, whole length. Henry Vernon, esq. Lady Henrietta Harriet Wentworth, his wife. Anne Vernon, lady Berwick. Caroline Vernon, her sister. The house is seated on an eminence near the southern extremity of the lordship, sloping to the river Tove, and fronting Grafton.

THE VILLAGE stands on rising ground about seven miles from Northampton, and a short distance west of the turnpike road to Stony Stratford. In the time of Bridges it contained 'five and fifty houses, in which were computed two hundred and sixty inhabitants'. By the census of 1801, it contained 61 houses and 352 inhabitants; by that of 1811, 73 houses and 375 inhabitants; by that of 1821, 79 houses and 424 inhabitants; and by that of 1831, 90 houses and 437 inhabitants. The annual quota of land tax for Stoke (exclusive of Shutlanger) is £113. 11s. 0½d. at 4s. in the £. The estimated value of real property as assessed to the property tax of 10 per cent. for the year ending April 1815 amounted to £1448. The poor's rates for the year ending Easter 1832 raised £371. 1s. 10d. at 12s. 6d. in the £. Stoke Park belongs equally to Stoke and Shutlanger, and each pauper is considered as a half man. The wake is kept on the Sunday before Michaelmas day.

THE ADVOWSON continued appendant to the manor till granted with Great Billing, Blisworth, and Cottingham, in 21 Eliz. (1579), to sir Christopher Hatton^o of HOLDENBY^o, afterwards lord chancellor, whose collateral descendant and representative Christopher lord Hatton of Kirby in 1676 sold the advowsons of Stoke Bruern, Great Billing, Cottingham, and Wold, for £1600 to the principal and fellows of Brasenose college, Oxford, the present patrons (1835).

THE RECTORY is in the deanry of Preston. In the taxations of 1254 (38 Hen. 3)^a and of 1291 (20 Edw. 1)^r it was rated at 20 marks (£13. 6s. 8d.) per ann.; and in the ecclesiastical survey of 1535 (26 Hen. 8) is charged in Brackley deanry following Byfield, at £31. 10s. 7d. per ann. deducting 10s. 7d. for synodals and procurations to the archdeacon of Northampton^s. The parliamentary commissioners in 1655 certified Stoke Bruerne cum Shutlanger to be a parsonage presentative in the patronage of sir Christopher Hatton, worth £150 per ann.; and that Mr. Daniel Rogers the incumbent received the profits and supplied the cure^t. The rectory now consists of 29a. 2r. of glebe in Stoke and 33a. in Shutlanger, with all the tithes of the parish, except a modus of £2. 4s. 10d. per ann. for Stoke Park, and some small moduses for small portions of Stoke meadow. The rectory house is east of the church and has been improved by the present incumbent.

RECTORS. *Richard de Ref*, clerk, by sir William Briwere or Bruere, 1217.

Adam de Iwelcestra, clerk, 11 June 1221.

Peter, chaplain, by sir Pagan de Cadurcis or Chaworth.

Robert de Harvedon, clerk, by sir Hugh le Despenser, 19 Feb. 1292. He was rector of Finedon from 1296 to 1317.

John de Harvedon, acolyte, 1 Nov. 1304. He was rector of Cottingham 1334, and of Oundle 1347.

John Attewell.

Stephen de Combmartyn, priest, by sir John de Staunton, 17 May 1347. He was rector of Alderton from 1311 to 1347.

Thomas de Barkenethby, priest, by Isabella de St. John, 2 Aug. 1349.

Thomas Mareschal, by sir John Chastyllon, 28 Feb. 1377. He has been already noticed under Easton Neston. *William de Rowdon*, sen. by John Wydyle, 16 Aug. 1393. He was rector of Tiffeld from 1370 to 1387.

Edmund Knyghtley.

John Alward or *Aylward*, priest, by John Gyffard, William Furtho, and Richard Wylyb (Willoughby, feoffees in trust), 12 Nov. 1420.

Mast. John Walter, LL.B. by Richard Harvedon, esq. 9 Mar. 1457.

Mast. Adam Morland, by sir John Dudley, by reason of the minority of John Longueville, 6 Sept. 1462.

Sir William Belton or *Bolton*.

Mast. John Bloxham, priest, by John Longueville, esq. 18 June 1485.

John Mayhoo, priest, by Margery Garnon, Sept. 1490.

Mast. John Knyghtley, A.M. by sir Richard Knyghtley, 11 Oct. 1524. He has been previously noticed under Byfield. On his decease

William Warren, was presented by the king and instituted 8 Jan. 1549. His death introduced

William Young, who was inst. 21 May 1559 on the presentation of the queen.

Maurice Jones, occurs rector 1562^s.

John Anson, inst. 3 Feb. 1578 on the death of the last incumbent.

Richard Lightfoot, inst. 27 Apr. 1601. He was buried here 28 Nov. 1625^s, and

Emanuel Arundel was inst. 16 Dec. following, on the presentation of the king, by wardship of Christopher Hatton, esq. He was buried 20 July 1649, at Roadie, to which place he probably retired on being sequestered from his living by the parliamentary committee; for

William Tabar, as minister of Stoke Bruern, subscribed to the solemn league and covenant in 1648. He died here 5 Jan. 1655, and

Daniel Rogers occurs the same year^r.

Peter Gunning, an eminent divine and controversialist, was the next incumbent, on the presentation of his pupil Christopher lord Hatton. He was son of Peter Gunning vicar of Hoo in Kent, where he was born in 1613. He

^a Br. i. p. 329.

^s Ibid. p. 323.

^r Rot. Pat. 19 May, 21 Eliz. p. 2.

^t Billing Rectory MS. Mem. Book.

^c Cotton MSS.

Nero, D. x. fo. 180.

^s Tax. Eccl. p. 38.

^r Augm. Off.

^t Lambeth MSS. vol. 20.

^c Par. Reg.

^c Lambeth MSS. vol. 20.

^s Vide vol. i. p. 196.

VOL. II.

CLELEY HUNDRED.

was sometime fellow of Clare hall, Cambridge, and a popular preacher in the university; but rendering himself obnoxious to the ruling powers by his vehement opposition to the solemn league and covenant he was deprived of his fellowship, and joined the royal headquarters at Oxford. After the surrender of that city, he became tutor to lord Hatton and sir Francis Compton, and subsequently chaplain to sir Robert Shirley, on whose decease he founded a congregation at Exeter house in the Strand, where he not only continued to read the liturgy notwithstanding repeated remonstrances from Cromwell, but such was his zeal and love of controversy, that there was scarcely any sect, whether presbyterian, independent, anabaptist, quaker, brownist, or socinian, but he held with them some time or other a set disputation in defence of the church of England. Two tracts arising out of these doctrinal debates appeared in 1658, "A contention for Truth: in two several public disputations before thousands of people in the church of St. Clement's Danes, without Temple-Bar, on the 19th & 26th of Nov. 1657, between Mr. Gunning on the one part and Mr. Denn on the other, concerning the Baptism of Infants, whether lawful or unlawful," Lond. 4to. And "Schism unmasked: or a late conference betwixt Mr. Peter Gunning and Mr. John Pierson, ministers, on the one part, and two Disputants of the Romish persuasion on the other." Paris.

On the restoration of king Charles II. he was restored to his fellowship, presented to a prebend in Canterbury, created D.D. by the king's mandate, and instituted to the rectories of Cottesmore in Rutlandshire, and Stoke Bruern: nor was this all, for before the expiration of the year he was made master of Corpus Christi college, Cambridge, and lady Margaret's professor of divinity; which he quitted on succeeding to the regius professorship of divinity, and mastership of St. John's College on the deprivation of Dr. Tuckney. In 1670 he was raised to the see

of Chichester, which he held with the regius professorship till 1674, when he was translated to Ely, where he died unmarried in July 1684. Besides the above tracts, he published "A view and correction of the Common Prayers," 1662. And "The Paschal, or Lent Fast, 38; with an appendix, 1662. 4to. There are two portraits of bishop Gunning: one by Loggan, and the other by J. Smith.

On his promotion to the bishoprick of Chichester, the king by virtue of his prerogative presented

William Rolfe, of New coll. Ox. A.M. rector of Church Brampton, who was inst. 19 Apr. 1670. He was buried here 6 Sept. 1693?, and

John Blackburn, of Brasenose coll. Ox. D.D. was inst. 20 Sept. following, on the presentation of the principal and fellows of that college. He was buried here 28 Apr. 1719?, and

Thomas Leigh, A.M. was inst. 1 Sept. following. He was buried here 5 Sept. 1751?, and

William Williams, A.M. was inst. 1 Jan. 1752. He was buried here 30 Apr. 1759?, and

John Eccles, A.M. was inst. 15 Oct. following. He was buried here 26 Dec. 1789?, and

William Stalman, A.M. was inst. 13 Apr. 1790. He was buried here 14 Feb. 1828?, and

Edward Cardwell, D.D. 1831, was inst. 17 June 1828. He was appointed Camden professor of ancient history in 1825, and principal of Alban hall, Oxford, in 1831. He has published "Aristotelis Ethica Nicomachea" with notes, vol. 1, 1828, vol. 2, 1830. "Lectures on the coinage of the Greeks and Romans," 1832. A sermon preached at Northampton before the two committees, &c. 1832. And a tract on Oxford Bibles and the authorized Version, 1833.

THE REGISTERS commence in 1560. There are no entries from 1654 to 1661.

COMMUNION PLATE. Mrs. Mary Arundel gave £50 for the purchase of plate, which was exchanged after the legacy of Mrs. Harriett Arundel, widow of Thomas Arundel, esq. who directed all her plate to be melted down and wrought into a handsome service of communion plate. It consists of a flagon, chalice, paten, basin, collecting plate, and brief plate, inscribed, "The gift of M^{rs}. Harriett Arundel for the use of the church of Stoke Bruern in Northamptonshire, 1776." There is also a small chalice inscribed, "Stoke Bruern 1661." presented by the rev. Peter Gunning, rector, afterwards bishop of Chichester and Ely. And a small paten inscribed, "Domino dedicavit Henricus Morland, sacrilegatus nemo, 1666."

THE CHURCH, dedicated to the blessed Virgin, stands on elevated ground at the north-western extremity of the village. It consists of a tower, containing five bells, nave, north and south aisles, south porch, and chancel. The windows of both aisles are of the Decorated style, but the clerestory windows are circular and dated "1594." The east chancel window is a handsome specimen of the Perpendicular style. The tower is 13ft. 3in. long by 9ft. 3in wide; the nave and aisles 60ft. 10in. long, the nave 17ft. 8in. and the two aisles 16ft. each wide; and the chancel 36ft. 10in. by 17ft. 4in. The interior is neatly paved and pewed, and a gallery across the west end was erected in 1772. A rude octagonal font about 4ft. high is attached to the pillar opposite to the south porch. The inner entrance to the tower is under a plain Norman arch without pillars or mouldings. The nave is uniformly divided from each aisle by five pointed arches on clustered multangular pillars, or rather piers, without capitals, except a band of plain mouldings. In the wall of the north aisle is a monumental or founder's arch, and at the east end a bracket for a statue. At the west end of the wall of the south aisle is a square locker, and a cinquefoil-headed piscina; and at the east end on the north side of the aisle, behind the pillar is a confessional arch communicating with the chancel. The nave is divided from the chancel by a lofty open arch, under which is a beautiful wooden screen with ogee arches and tracery in the compartments. At the east end of the north wall is an arched seat, and a trefoil-headed locker or opening.

MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS.

NAVE. I. On a wooden rectangular tablet near the screen, in a lozenge, *Arundel*, and beneath,

In Memory of Mr Mary
Arundell daughter of Fra-
ncis & Ann Arundell who
Gave to this Parish 50*£* for
Communion Plate & 50*£* for
the beautifying and repair-
ing of this Church.

She dyed at Darby
the 27th of July. Ann-
Dom. 1676 & lyes bury-
-ed there in the chancel
in Allhallowes.

II. On a wooden lozenge-shaped tablet against a pil-
lar opposite the reading desk, O. a pale between two lions
rampant S. *Naillour*, impaling per pale O. & V. a chevron
voided between three trefoils slipped, all Counterchanged,
Wickens. Dexter crest, On a wreath O. & S. a lion's head
erased S. charged on the neck with a saltier O. Sinister
crest, On a wreath O. & S. a talbot courant Ar. spotted
S. behind a tree Proper.

Here lyes interred by her Father y^e body of Jane Nailour 2d
wife of Rich^d Nailour y^e 2 sone of Rich Nailour of Offord in
y^e county of Hunt;
Esq. Shee was y^e sole dau. & heire of Mr. Rob. Wickens late
of this

p^{ri}sh. Shee had issue (1) sone defunct & (3) daughters
living viz. Anna Mary and Susanna.
Shee lived vertuously 44 years
and dyed Religiously
January 21^o
165³.

Slabs for,

1. Mr^s Ellinor Smyth, 16th Sept. 1694.
W^m Smyth, Gent. 27th May 1700.

2. Arms of *Crane*:

Here lyeth y^e body of Elizabeth
Crane daughter of John Crane of
Loughton in y^e County of Bucks
Esq. who departed this life
Upon y^e 14th day of November
In y^e year of our Lord 1672.

SOUTH AISLE. I. On a large mural tablet:

THIS
Monument was erected
by the Executors of
JOHN SMITH Merchant in London
who died April 23^d 1768. Aged 62
pursuant to the direction of his Will.

In Memory of
His Father JOHN SMITH
who was buried Aug^t 29th 1742.

His Mother ELIZABETH SMITH
who was buried Feby 16th 1749.

His Brother STEPHEN SMITH
who was interred June 19th 1741.

His Sister SUSANNA WILCOX
was buried Sept 22^d 1744.

AND
his Uncle RICHARD WHITLOCK
died Nov^r 19th 1734.

3. On marble slabs for the Sheppard family:

Here lyeth y^e Body of Anna Sheppard
(Widow and Relict of Vincent Sheppard
late of Richmond in y^e County of Surrey
Esq. deceased and only sister to
Rich^d Sheppard late of this parish
Gent. deceas'd) who Dyed on the
17th Day of September 1743.

4. Within a circle *Nailour*, quartering *Wickens*. Crest,
On a wreath, a lion's head erased,

Here lyeth interred the Body of Mr.
RICHARD SHEPPARD Gent. who
Departed this Life the 16th of Jan^y 1734
Son of Mr. THOMAS SHEPPARD of
London Merchant and Anna his Wife
Heiress of RICHARD NAILOUR Esq^r
and ANNE his Wife Heiress of
WILLIAM WICKINS Esq.

5. HERE LYETH INTERRED THE BODY
OF ANNA SHEPARD ELDEST
DAUGHTER OF RICHARD NAILOUR Esq^r
WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE THE
30th OF NOVEMBER
ANNO Dⁿⁱ 1694.

Mr RICHARD SHEPPARD
(son of Richard and Louisa Sheppard)
Died 31st of May 1829
Aged 57 years.

SARAH, Wife of the above
DIED 11th Oct. 1813 Aged 40 years.

MARGARET WORLEY SHEPPARD
DIED 11th MARCH 1811
Aged 18 WEEKS

6. Mary Nailour second daughter
of Richard Nailour Esq. departed
this life the 6th of Novem^{br} 1692.

JOHN, YOUNGEST SON OF
RICH^d & LOUISA SHEPPARD
Died Aug. 8th 1802
AGED 25 YEARS.

7. On a lozenge *Nailour* quartering *Wickens*.
HERE LIES THE BODY OF MRS. SUSANNAH
NAILOUR DAUGHTER AND COHEIRESS
OF RICHARD NAILOUR Esq. who
DIED A VIRGIN, MAY THE 15th 1677.

ALSO
Under this Stone lies the Body of
RICHARD SHEPPARD Esq.
who died the 17th of July 1781
Aged 41 Years.

ALSO
Under this Stone lies the Body of
M^{rs}. Louisa Sheppard, Wife of
Rich^d SHEPPARD Esq. she died
Nov^{br} 2nd 1821, Aged 84.

8. Arms. *Nailour*, on an inescutcheon *Wickens*, impal-
ing () a chevron () between three leaves () a chief
().

SEERO LUCUM ETERNAM
OBII FEBRUARY 19^o
167³,

Near this Stone lies the Body of
Elizabeth wife of R. E. Sheppard
who Died 20th Jan. 1822 Aged 62.

CLELEY HUNDRED.

CHANCEL. III. On a square freestone tablet on the south wall:

In Memory of
JOHN BLACKBURN
D.D. He was rector
of this Parish 25 Years.
He deceased the 23th
Day of April 1719.
Aged 72 Years.

IV. On a small brass plate within a freestone collateral to the last, the figure of a priest kneeling before an altar. Dexter side, Barry of six O. & G. on a bend S. three escallops of the First, *Lightfoot*. Sinister, *Lightfoot*, impaling, O. three bars [q. Az.].

MEMORIE

RICHARDI LIGHTFOOT HUIUS ECCLE'IE PER XXIII
ANNOS RECTORIS, EVANGELII PRÆCONIS,
J. L. FILIUS ET HERES SUUS POSUIT.

PASCENTEM EXEMPO POPULOS VERBOQ. CIBOQ.
MORS SUGRESSA LEVI EST NON INOPINA FEDE.
VITA BREVIS, NAM LONGA FUIT MEDITATIO MORTIS,
SIC ALIOS DOCUIT VIVERE SEQ. MONI.

OBITI ANNO { DOM. 1625.
 { ETAT. SUE 63.

V. On a mural monument of veined marble:

Near this Place
Lieth the Body of the
Rev^d JOSEPH TORDIFF
Late Rector
of *Horton and Piddington*
who died Suddenly
December 18th 1775.
Aged 45.

Grieve not for me, my Glass was run
It is the Lord, his Will be done:
When Christ appears I hope to rise
Into that Life which never dies.

ALSO

Near this Place lieth Mrs.
ELIZABETH TORDIFFE
Relict of the Rev^d JOSEPH
TORDIFFE,
who departed this Life
June 27th 1779 Aged 69
Years.

VI. On a small square marble, surmounted by a lozenge, *Arundel*, impaling *Crane* of Loughton.

M. S.

Underneath lyeth
Interd with her Husband ye
body of ANN Relict of
FRANCIS ARUNDELL
Esq. who departed this
life upon the 4th day of
January in ye year
1674.

VII. On a neat marble tablet against the south wall, Gyrony of eight Ar. & Az. on a chief G. three annulets O. *Rolfe*, impaling, Az. a fess Ar. on a chief of the 2d, three lozenges in fess G.

H. E.

GULIELMUS ROLFE A.M.
EX Socio Collegii Novi Oxon Rector
Ecclesiae de Church BRAMPTON in
hoc Comitatu per XXV Annos
Ecclesiae de STOKES RUERN per XXIII.
Et ELIZABETHÆ

Uxor sua dilectissima
Ile obit Anno Salutis MDCLXXXIII
Ætatis LVII.
Hæc Anno Salutis MDCLXXXVIII
Ætatis XLII.
Tres Liberos Morte præmatura ereptos
Juxta hunc Tumulum deposuerant.
Deinde GULIELMUS Natu maximus e Templo
Interiori LONDINI Animam
Deo Reddidit MDCLXXXII.
Atque eo defuncto, Pater duos reliquit
Liberos sibi superstitēs
Robertum e Collegio Baliolensi
Oxon A.M.
Qui LONDINI obiit MDCCXXI
Et
ELIZABETHAM, quæ Parentibus
Optimis Marmor hoc
Poni curavit.

On slabs,

9. Here Lieth the Body of
The Rev^d Mr. THOMAS LEIGH
A.M. who Died
August the 31st 1751
Aged 70.

10. HERE LYETH YE BODY OF
MASTER WILLIAM
TARAL LATE MINISTER
OF THIS PARISH WHO
DIED THE 5 OF JANUARY
1655.

THO' CORRUPTION HATH
BROUGHT THIS BODY TO BE
DROSS YET THE RESURRECTI-
ON SHALL REPAVE THE LOSE.
MANY A SIGH AND TEAR HE HATH
LET FOR HIS PEOPLE HEER: TWO
UGH OUR LOSE IT IS HIS GAIN
HE IS WITH CHAIST & EVER
SHALL REMAIN.

11. On a black marble slab, in a lozenge (O.) three piles meeting in base (Az.) *Bryan*.

HERE LYETH THE BODY OF ELIZABETH
DAUGHTER OF JOSEPH BRYAN OF
NORTHAMPTON ESQ. WHO DYED
YE 1st OF NOVEMBER 1662.

12. H. S. E.
Elizabetha Rolfe 1688.
M.DC.LXXXVIII.

13. H. S. E.
Gulielmus Rolfe
MDCLXXXIII
Here Lieth the Body of
the Rev^d Mr. Wm. WILLIAMS.
A.M.
Rector of this Parish
Who Died April ye 28th 1739
Aged 41.

14. HERE LYETH THE BODY OF ANNE
ARUNDELL DAUGHTER OF
FRANCIS ARUNDELL OF
STOAKE PARK IN THE
COUNTY OF NORTHAMP-
TON ESQ. WHO DYED
THE 25th OF SEPTEMBER
ANNO DOM.
1661.

15. On a black marble slab, *Crane* of Loughton.

In
Memory of
Francis Crane Esq.
tenth son of John Crane
of Loughton in the County of Bucks, Esq.
(Servant to Q. Elizabeth, K. James, K. Charles ye 1st
& Chief of ye Greencloth to K. Charles ye 2nd)
and of Mary Crane Eldest Daughter
of Sr Thomas Tresham, of Newton
in this County.

He gave a Weekly Charity of 10 twopenny loaves
to be distributed to 10 poor people of this parish
every Lord's day after Morning prayer for ever.
He died at Stoake parke

In the year of { His age 82 } March the 31st.
 { our Lord 1703 }

16. HERE LYETH THE BODIE
OF ELIZABETH ARUNDELL
GENT. WIFE OF EM. ARUNDELL
RECTOR WHO DECEASED
THE 17th OF APRIL
1638.

17. On a black marble slab, *Arundell*, impaling *Crane*
of Loughton.

HERE LYETH YE BODY OF FRANCIS
ARUNDELL OF STOKE PARK IN THE
COUNTY OF NORTHAMPTON ESQ.
WHO LEFT BEHIND HIM ANNE HIS
WIFE SECOND DAUGHTER OF JOHN
CRANE OF LOUGHTON IN YE COUNTY
OF BUCKINGHAM ESQ FRANCIS HIS
ONLY SONNE & 2 DAUGHTERS ANNE
& MARY THE YOUNGEST BEING BORNE
3 MONTHES AFTER HIS DECEASE
OBIIT 16 APRILL
1654.

18. On a small black marble slab :

HERE LYES THE BODY OF
JOHN SECOND SON
OF FRANCIS AND FELICIA
ARUNDELL WHO WAS
BURIED THE 12th DAY OF
AUGUST 1678.

On the south side of the churchyard is a freestone altar tomb with the arms of *Arundell* impaling *Wentworth*, but no inscription.

BENEFACTIONS. (Vide p. 117). **BOSENHOE'S CHARITY.** Thomas Bosenhoe, by will 6 Nov. 1610, devised a messuage with appurtenances, an acre of meadow, and divers arable and ley grounds in Shuttlehanger, containing by estimation 20 acres, [15 a. 3 r. 5 p. of land,] to trustees, to apply one moiety of the rents and profits towards the repairs of the church of Stoke Bruerne, and one half of the remaining moiety for the relief of the poor of Stoke Bruerne, and the other half for the relief of the poor of Shuttlehanger; and he directed that on the death of nine or more of the feoffees, the survivors should convey the premises to sixteen new feoffees.

The estate now (1835) lets for £20. 15s. per ann. one moiety of which is applied by the churchwardens with the church-rates; and the other is distributed on St. Thomas's day yearly, half among poor people belonging to Stoke and half among those of Shuttlehanger, not receiving parochial relief.

THE NEW CHARITY ESTATE. By indenture 14 Feb. 1743, reciting, that by virtue of several charities given by different persons to the poor of Stoke Bruern and Shuttlehanger, there was then in the hands of the rector, churchwardens, and overseers the sum of £78, whereof £49. 10s. belonged to Stoke Bruerne, and £28. 10s. to Shuttlehanger; and that it had been agreed in vestry to lay out the two said sums in lands and tenements, the rents and profits to be distributed on the 21st of December yearly, by the minister, churchwardens, and overseers for the time being, in proportion to the sums aforesaid, among such poor of Stoke and Shuttlehanger as should not receive collection; a cottage with appurtenances, and several parcels of arable land, and one parcel of meadow, lying dispersedly in the common field of Shuttlehanger, reputed to be three acres and a half, were conveyed, in consideration of the above sum, to the minister, churchwardens, and overseers of Stoke Bruerne, their successors and assigns.

19. On a large black marble slab, in a lozenge, *Arundell*:

Here lyeth the bodies of
MARY & DOROTHY TWO of
ye Daughters of FRANCIS and
ANNE ARUNDELL & also ye
body of MARY ye Daughter of
FRANCIS & FELICIA ARUNDELL
who was born August the
29th 1690.
& died ye 12th of August
1692.

20. On a marble slab:

Here lieth the Bodies of
FRANCIS ARUNDELL, Esq.
and Felicia his Wife.
He died in the Year of
our Lord 1736.
She in the year of
our Lord 1710.

21. Within the altar rails, on a small brass plate, inscribed in a large marble slab:

SURTUS IN EODEM SEPULCHRO CONDUNTUR CORPORA
GULIELMI STALMAN AM. HUIUSCE ECCLESIE
PAROCHIE QUE PER OCTO ET TRIGINTA ANNOS
RECTORIS, ET MARIE UXORIS EJUS DILECTISSIMAE
QUORUM HÆC DIEM OBIT SUPREMUM, NON.
APRIL ANNO DOMINI 1823. ÆTATIS SUE 70. ILLE 4
ID FEBRUAR. ANNO DOMINI 1828. ÆTATIS SUE 78.
LIBEROS HABUERE TRES; UNAM FILIAM
PRIMOGENITAM, QUE, POST UNIUS HORÆ VITAM,
ALTERA MORTUA EST, ET DUOS FILIOS;
GULIELMUM NATU MAJOREM, QUEM MOXS
IMMATURA OXONIÆ ABRIPIIT 8 CAL. MAI.
ANNO DOMINI 1821. ÆTATIS SUE 25. ET
HENRICUM ADHUC SUPERSTITEM.

*Percussie putas, fera mors, tristique sepulcro
Nos plane domitos hic perisse simul?
Falleris; æternus non te manet usque triumphus,
Nec tibi vincendi gloria semper erit.
Nobis tempus adest, diræ cum vincula mortis
Rumpentur; tumuli jænua aperta patet.
Nec mora; quam celeri propeat conjungere motu
Carui quæque sue, ossibus ossa suis!
Nos quoque, cara Maria, alti penetralia celi
Viscimus; quid enim? nos rapiet Dominus.*

CLELEY HUNDRED.

The premises are now (1835) let for £6. 15s. 7d. *per ann.* and the amount distributed on St. Thomas's day yearly among the poor of Stoke Bruerne and Shuttlehanger, in the ratio of seven parts to the former, and four parts to the latter.

KINGSTON'S CHARITY. Thomas Kingston by will 14 Nov. 1609 charged his message and lands in Shuttlehanger with the payment of 12d. weekly to the poor of Stoke Bruerne and Shuttlehanger, 6d. a week to the poor of each place to be distributed by the owners of the said premises weekly to such persons as they should think most in need.

The sum of 52s. *per ann.* is paid out of this estate, now belonging to the Earl of Pomfret, in weekly payments of 2d. to six poor women, three belonging to Stoke Bruerne, and three to Shuttlehanger.

BREAD CHARITY. The moiety of message and farm in Shuttlehanger, called John Wilkins's farm, comprising a small meadow and 20 a. of land in the open fields of Shuttlehanger, and an acre and a half of meadow in Freeman's holme, was charged by indenture in Apr. 1702, with the payment of £4. 3s. 4d. yearly, by the proprietor for the time being, to be expended by him in providing and delivering every Sunday at the church of Stoke Bruerne 10 twopenny loaves of household wheat bread to be disposed of after divine service by the minister and churchwardens with the consent and appointment of the owner or occupier of the Stoke Park estate, among 10 poor persons, five living in Stoke Bruerne, and five in Shuttlehanger.

SHUTTLANGER.

in early records Sittelhangre, Schitelhanger, Shuttlehanger, &c. is parochially subordinate to, though of equal extent with Stoke, exclusive of the park. About 360 acres of the duke of Grafton's Stoke estate, and the whole of the Earl of Pomfret's (about 530 acres), are within this hamlet. Shutlanger has distinct highway, poor, and church rates from Stoke.

MANORIAL HISTORY. Shutlanger is a manorial member of Stoke. It was comprised in the original grant from William Warren earl of Surrey to William Brewere*; is included in most of the inquisitions of its subsequent lords, and co-lords; and is now vested in the duke of Grafton.

In 1 Joh. (1199) *John Mauduit* recovered against Gerard de Manquinci eleven virgates of land in Sittelhangre and two virgates in Stoke^a. These lands, probably laid the foundation of a number of small freeholds, which, from the Bacons, Fridays, Eltonheds, and Empsons^b, were in the sixteenth century, concentrated in the Fernor family and became a reputed manor. In 3 & 4 Ph. & Mar. (1556-7) sir *John Fernor* levied a fine of Shuttlehanger manor^c, and in 12 Eliz. (1570) settled it (*int. al.*) on the marriage of his son sir *George Fernor*^d, from whom it has lineally descended to the present earl of Pomfret.

Shutlanger was annexed to the honor of Grafton on its erection in 33 Hen. 8 (1541), and is a member of the court held at Stoke Bruern.

THE VILLAGE is about a mile west of Stoke, and in the time of Bridges was^e an hamlet of sixty houses, containing about two hundred and eighty inhabitants. He adds 'it was formerly a place famous for shooting at butts, of which the marks are still remaining^f.' By the census of 1801, Shutlanger contained 49 houses, and 257 inhabitants; by that of 1811, 57 houses and 265 inhabitants; by that of 1821, 63 houses, and 308 inhabitants; and by that of 1831, 74 houses and 325 inhabitants. The annual quota of land tax is £121. 10s. 3d. at 4s. in the £. The estimated value of real property, as assessed to the property tax of 10 *per cent.* for the year ending April 1815, amounted to £1595. The poor's rates for the year ending Easter 1832, raised £531. 11s. 6d. at 11s. in the £. The wake is kept on the second Sunday after Michaelmas day.

THE CHAPEL stood at the lower end of the village, and has been converted into a farm house. Some of the original windows still remain, and the porch is perfect. The interior is 11 ft. long by 8½ ft. wide, and 10 ft. high. There are two small arches on each side, from which spring a groined roof with plain ribs, and a flowered boss in the centre. Behind the porch is a small staircase.

ROBERT WICKENS son of John Wickens of Shutlanger, was entered a servitor of Christ Church college, Oxford, in 1632 at the age of seventeen years; and after taking the degrees in arts, entered into holy orders. He first kept a school near Campden in Gloucestershire, then at Worcester, and afterwards at Toddtenham in Gloucestershire, where he obtained the rectory, and dying 29 Nov. 1682 was buried in the chancel of the church. He was author of "Latium & Lyceum, Græca cum Latinis; sive Grammaticæ Artis in utraq[ue] Lingua lucidissima exp[er]petis." Oxon. 1654, 8vo. "Grammaticæ Græcæ Enchiridion." printed with the former book. And "A compleat and perfect Concordance of the English Bible, composed after a new and most compendious Method." Oxon. 1655, 8vo.

* Charity Commissioners' 14th Report, p. 223 & 224.

^a Placit. 1 Joh.

^b Fernor evidences.

^c Hutton MSS. * Fin. Hill.

^d 3 & 4 Ph. & Mar. ^e Br. 1, p. 329.

^f Vide p. 238.

PREFACE.

continue to prosecute my enquiries with unabated zeal, and with feelings of the warmest gratitude towards those who promote my views either by their subscription, their contribution of plates, or their personal kindness.

'Though I have a subscription list of which I may be justly proud, as it contains none but spontaneous patrons (never having personally applied to or solicited a single subscriber) yet perhaps I may be excused remarking on the present occasion, that an accession to the list would be very acceptable. I have lost many subscribers by death and the fluctuations of property, since the commencement of my undertaking. Some individuals excuse themselves from subscribing on the plea that they shall not live to see its completion; and others wait till that period before they purchase. The former class might be reminded that life is equally uncertain to the author, and their principle, if generally acted upon, would put an effectual veto on all expensive works, which can only be published by individuals under the guarantee of a subscription: the latter class too, if numerous, would prevent the publication they profess to desire.'

The case of Mr. Baker has peculiar claims to our consideration. In estimating the extent of his undertaking, it is to be borne in mind that no similar work has ever hitherto been executed or attempted by any person of moderate income, otherwise than in dependence upon the pecuniary support of public bodies or opulent individuals.

Mr. Bridges, who collected the materials for the former History of the County, was a Barrister of ample private fortune, and could therefore afford to expend, as in fact he did, several thousand pounds on this pursuit. He died in 1724, and left his valuable collection of materials to his family, to be committed to such persons as should be thought best qualified to arrange and publish them.

After an unsuccessful attempt on the part of his brother, the gentlemen of the county, in 1755, were obliged to take up the business, and a committee was formed at the Summer Assizes, of which Sir Thos. Cave, Bart. was chairman. An address was circulated by the committee soliciting public subscriptions, as the only means by which such a work could be undertaken. The conduct of the work was finally entrusted to the Rev. Peter Whalley, by whom it was at length completed. Yet with all the advantages of high patronage and talent, such were the difficulties to be encountered in the publication, that the second volume did not appear till 1791, being 29 years after the first volume, and about 36 years after the commencement of the undertaking.

Mr. Baker commenced his publication with a list of subscribers fully sufficient to justify the most sanguine expectation. But, from the causes above alluded to in his address, combined with others beyond his control, and without any disparagement of his ability or the merits of his work, this list has been gradually diminishing, and he has lost 180* subscribers since he first issued his prospectus. The names however of *all* the subscribers, whether lost by death or otherwise, are still retained on the list, as showing the extensive patronage which the author once enjoyed, and affording evidence of his reasonable hopes and expectations.

Whatever might have been Mr. Baker's claim to patronage at the commencement of his labours, no one who has inspected their progress can doubt that this claim now stands on a much higher ground, when he has proved himself by the Parts already published so fully competent to the undertaking, that in fact no County History can now be named, under whatsoever advantage it may have been accomplished, with which the History of Northamptonshire may not be placed in proud competition.

NORTHAMPTON, Chairman."

The result of this kind and flattering demonstration in my favor,—owing in a great measure perhaps to the extremely limited circulation of the Resolutions and Address,—was not such as might have been reasonably anticipated.

Whilst my pecuniary means were adequate to the prosecution of my work, the pleasure of the pursuit was a sufficient reward; but I should be acting disingenuously to my friends and subscribers, and unjustly to myself, if I were any longer to conceal the fact, that in carrying it on to the present time, I have made a much greater pecuniary sacrifice than a due regard to my own comfort or interest will warrant or justify. Should my labours terminate with the present portion, I cannot take my leave without again expressing my heartfelt gratitude to all those who have hitherto promoted my views and cheered my progress by their subscription, their contribution of plates, or—what is still more highly valued by me and more deeply imprinted on my heart—their personal regard and kindness.

NORTHAMPTON, October, 1841.

WICKEN OR WYKENS

is a consolidation of the two ancient and contiguous parishes of WYKE HAMON and WYKE DYVE.

Wick, or Wyke, derived from the Saxon Wye, is of frequent occurrence both as an initial and terminal syllable in the composition of our local nomenclature; but etymologists have assigned to it the very varied and contradictory significations of, a curving or reach of a river, a castle, mansion, village, street on an ancient road, and farm house. In the present instance the two former definitions are wholly inapplicable, but either of the others may be selected with equal probability.

Wicken contains about 2160 acres; the whole of which, except about 126 acres of glebe land belonging to the rector, is the property of sir John Mordaunt, bart. M.P. for South Warwickshire. It is all old inclosure; and in 15 Car. (1639) "Wicken otherwise Wick Dyve or Wickhamond" was in consideration of £200 for ever disafforested, and "put without" the bounds and jurisdiction of Whittlebury forest[†]. It is bounded on the north by Kingsriding in the hamlet of Denshanger, and Whittlebury forest; east by the river Ouse which divides it from Thornton and Beauchampton in Buckinghamshire; south by Leckhampstead in the same county; and west by Lillingston Lovell, an isolated portion of Oxfordshire. The soil is principally a cold white clay, and in some parts a brown stone brash loam, with an under stratum of lime stone. There are nearly equal portions of arable and pasture, and about 220 acres of woodland. There is a water mill on the Ouse. The Buckingham canal passes through this lordship.

WYKE HAMON.

MANORIAL HISTORY. MAINO or WOLVERTON FEE. This portion of Wiche was the Saxon freehold of *Siward*,* and was rated at 40s. yearly, both then, and at the Domesday Survey, when it was held by *Maino*. It contained only three virgates, though the arable land was three carucates. There were two ploughs with one servant, and five villans with one bordar had two ploughs. There were six acres of meadow, and a wood ten furlongs long and three wide[†].

The descendants of *Maino* or *Maino Brito* adopted the surname of Wolverton, from the head of their barony in Buckinghamshire: in which county Maino had ten other manors[‡]; besides Lutterworth and Misterton in Leicestershire[§]; and Thenford[¶], Wick Hamon, and Maidwell in Northamptonshire[¶]. In the hydarium of Hen. 2. Wyke Mainfein was returned to consist of two hides of the fee of Wolfrington[¶] or Wolverton; and in the roll of widows and minors of tenants *in capite* in ward to the king in the 31st of this reign (1185) the land of *Hamon Fitz Hamon Fitz Meinfein* in Wyke was certified to be worth £4. 10s. yearly when stocked with two ploughs, fifty sheep, four cows, four sows, and one boar; and because there was no stock there it was worth only 37s. yearly[¶]. By entries on the Buckinghamshire rolls, it appears that Matilda widow of Hamon (Fitz) Meinfein was forty-six years of age, and that her son *Hamon* whose father died on the Friday before the Ascension in that year was twenty years old, and married by the king's writ, and was descended paternally from the Earl Warren, and maternally was nephew of William Mauduit[¶]. In 15 Joh. (1213) the king by writ to Henry de Braybrook acquitted *William Fitz Hamon* and his knights, of the castle guard to Northampton for the preceding year[¶]; his barony being held by the service of rendering ward to that castle. In the Testa de Nevill this William Fitz Hamon is returned as holding the fourth of a fee in demesne in Wyke[¶]; and in 19 Hen. 3 (1235) on levying the scutage on the marriage of the king's sister to the emperor of the Romans, he paid 46s. 8d. for one fee in Maidwell, half a fee in Thenford, and the fourth of a fee in Wyke of the barony of Wolverton[¶]. He died in 31 Hen. 3 (1246) and was succeeded by his brother and heir sir *Alan Fitz Hamon*[¶], who paid £100 for the relief of his barony in 32 Hen. 3 (1247)[¶], but died almost immediately after, leaving his son and heir sir *John Fitz Alan* de Wolverton aged thirty years[¶], who before the expiration of the same regal year 32 Hen. 3 (1248) did homage for his lands[¶]. In the book of knight's fees 24 Edw. 1 (1295) Robert de Arden and Isabella his wife were found to hold the manor of Wyke Hamon for the fourth of a fee, in right of her dower[¶], as widow of sir John Fitz Alan. On an inquisition *ad q. d.* in 6 Edw. 2 (1312) the jury presented that it would not be to the damage of the king or any other, if he granted licence to *John de Wolverton* to settle the manor of Padbury in Buckinghamshire on his son John de Wolverton, and Joan daughter of Bartholomew Pechie and their heirs, because there would still remain to the said John lands held *in capite* in Wolverton and Chalfont St. Giles in Buckinghamshire and in Wyke[¶] worth £100 yearly[¶]—more than sufficient to answer the feudal services incident to his barony; and in 5 Edw. 3 (1331) on the marriage of his son John with Joan his second wife, he had licence by another inquisition *ad q. d.* to settle on them in tail male, remainder to himself in fee, the manor of Wykehamond, held in capite, by service of 2s. 6d. yearly to the ward of Northampton castle[¶]. Sir *John de Wolverton* senior died in 15 Edw. 3 (1341)[¶]; and on collecting the aid for knighting the king's eldest son in 20 Edw. 3 (1346) his son sir John

* Pat. 24 Jun. 1. 15 Car. p. 10.

† Domesd. fo. 229.

‡ Ibid. fo. 151 b. & 152.

§ Ibid. fo. 236.

¶ Cotton MSS. Yesp.

E. xxij. fo. 96.

¶ Rot. de Dominabus, &c. p. 14.

¶ Ibid. p. 20 & 21.

¶ Rot. Claus. 15 Joh. r.

¶ Test. Nev. fo. 163 & 159.

¶ Ibid. fo. 136.

¶ Rot. Orig. 32 Hen. 3, n. 28.

¶ Rot. Orig. 32 Hen. 3, r. 3.

¶ Esc. 33 Hen. 3, n. 63.

¶ Rot. Orig. 32 Hen. 3, r. 8.

¶ Cotton MSS. Nom. Vill. p. 90.

¶ Rot. Orig. 5 Edw. 3, r. 45.

¶ Inq. ad q. d. 6 Edw. 2, n. 46.

¶ Esc. (ad q. d.) 5 Edw. 3, p. 2, n. 26.

¶ Rot. Fin. 5 Edw. 3, n. 13.

¶ Rot. Orig. 5 Edw. 3, p. 1, n. 24.

¶ Esc. 15 Edw. 3, p. 1, n. 24.

¶ Vide WERON PINESEY, p. 165.

† Vide vol. 1. p. 713.

In 41 Edw. 3 (1367) *Richard de Wydeville* * gave £20 for licence to John Wake and others to enfeoff him and his son John de Wydeville in the manor of Wykhamond under a certain form; and the same year there was an inquisition ad g. d. permitting John Wake, Roger de Louth and Margery his wife, William de Cogenho and Elizabeth his wife, Adam de Basing, and Thomas de Covele and Elizabeth his wife, to convey it to them, remainder to Richard de Wydeville son of the said John in tail male, with divers remainders over; which conveyance and entail were confirmed by a fine levied the year following.

MAINO BRITO AND WOLVERTON OF WOLVERTON CO. BUCKS AND WICKEN.

Arms. WOLVERTON. Azure, an eagle displayed Or debruised by a bend Gules.

MEINFELIN DE WOLVERTON, sheriff of co. Bucks & Beds. temp. Hen. 1, founded Bradwell abbey, co. Bucks, temp. Steph.

HAMON FLY MEINPELLEN DE WOLVENTON, grandson of Maino, certified his—MATILDA, d. of ... Mauduit of Hanoelope, co.
 HAMON 14 HEN. 2 (1167) ob. May 31 Hen. 2 (1182). Bucks, a waler set. 46, 31 Hen. 2 (1182)

1 w. ... HAMON FLY HAMON FLY MEIN—2 w. ROBERT, 3d visd. and—2 h. WILLIAM A ALDRIN of Belvoir—3 w. MARGARET, 3 dand. liv.
 PELIN DE WOLVENTON, et. 20, 31 Hen. 2 (1182) living 6 Ric. (1193). co. Letic. co. HERR. to Agatha 10 Ric. d. of Odonel de
 dead 10 Ric. (1199). BRUNSTON ob. r. p. 31 (1199) ob. 31 Ric. 3 (1206). Umfraville. (1182).
 Hen. 3 (1246-7).

1. Sir WILLIAM FITZ HAMON DE WOL.—HELEWISE, dau. of—2^d h? RALPH DE ARVERTON, ob. s. p. 31 Hen. 3 (1246) *Esc.*, liv. 33 Hen. 3 DEN, living 6 Edw. 1 (1278).
31 Hen. 3, n. 28.

2. Sir ALAN FITZ HAMON DE WOLVERTON, bro. &—...
heir 31 Hen. 3, ob. 32 Hen. 3 (1246) *Esc.* 33 Hen. 3, n. 63.

Sir JOHN FITZ ALAN DE WOLVERTON, et. 30, Esc. 33 Hen. 3, living—18 Edw. 1 (1289), dead 24 Edw. 1 (1295).—ISABEL, d. of had Wick Hamon in—24 Edw. 1 (1295).
 18 Edw. 1 (1289), dead 24 Edw. 1 (1295). dower 24 Edw. 1 (1295). 24 Edw. 1 (1295).

Sir JOHN DE WOLVERTON, ob. 15 Edw. 3, (1341) Esc. 15 Edw. 3, p. 1, n. 24 , d. of
 Sir JOHN DE WOLVERTON, est. 27 W. Joan 3d & coh. of William I. h. ANDREW Sr. Lsz, oc. 3 h. Sir JOHN CHASTILLON,
 4 Edw. 15 Edw. 3. ob. 13 July. Comestrian of Stoke Bruerne, mar. 3 Edw. 3 (1329) ob. of Thornton co. Bucks.
 6 Edw. 2 (1312). 23 Edw. 3 (1349) Esc. 23 Edw. 3 (1349) Esc. 23 Edw. 3 (1349) living s. p.
 n. 35. 25 Edw. 3 (1351). Vide STOKES BUREN, p. 241.

[illegible]

JOHN WAKE, coh. of Wolverton 40 Edw. 3 (1366) and with his co-parceners sold Wyke Hamon 41 Edw. 3 (1367) liv. 50 Edw. 3 (1376).	ADAM BASING, grandson and coh. et. 11, <i>Esc.</i> 23 <i>Edw.</i> 3, coh. of Wolverton 40 Edw. 3 (1366) liv. 50 Edw. 3 (1376).	THEOBALD GOSSET, grandson and coh. et. 5 <i>Esc.</i> 23 <i>Edw.</i> 3, living 33 Edw. 3 (1359), dead s. p. 40 Edw. 3 (1366).	1 h. WIL—ELIZABETH, coh. of 2 h. THOMAS LIAM BOYES, Wolverton 40 Edw. 3 (1366), dead s. p. mar. 40 Edw. 3 (1376). 50 Edw. 3 (1376).
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In 6 Ric. 2 (1382) the entail created in 41 Edw. 3. was barred, and the manor and advowson settled by an inquisition *ad q. d.* on *John de Wydeville* and Isabella his wife in tail male, remainder to him in fee. 'In the twentieth of Hen. VI.' a fine of 40s. was imposed upon *William Fortho*, for accepting a conveyance of this manor from *Richard de Wydeville* to himself and his heirs, without the king's licence, and re-conveying it to the said *Richard* and *Joan* his wife with remainder to their heirs.' Their son *Richard Wydeville*, lord Rivers, afterwards earl Rivers, had a grant of free warren in Grafton Regis, Pateshull, and Wicken¹; and from him, this manor accompanied *GRAFTON REGIS* to *Thomas Grey* marquis of Dorset², whose son *Thomas*, the second marquis, in 3 Hen. 8 (1511) sold it (*int. al.*) to *John Spencer*, esq., of *ALTHORP*, afterwards knighted. Its subsequent descent down to *John Mordaunt*, bart. M.P. the present proprietor (1835), will be incorporated with *WYKE DYVE*.

THE PARK. John Fitz Alan de Wolverton had licence in 18 Edw. 1 (1289) to inclose his park of Wykehamon within the forest of Whittlewood¹; and an inquisition was held the same year concerning the park by the jury in full swanmote before John de Tingewick custos of the forest^m. In 4 Hen. 8 (1512) John Spencer, esq. had a confirmation of a free park of 500 acres in Wyke Hamon with free warrenⁿ; but his descendant Robert second earl of

* *Exc.* 15 *Edw.* 3, p. 1, n. 24. *Isham MSS.* No. 38, p. 200, "Comp. Walt. Parles." * *Exc.* 23 *Edw.* 3, n. 25. * *Exc.* 23 *Edw.* 3, p. 1, n. 6. * *Rot. Orig.* 39 *Edw.* 3, p. 19. * *Ibid.* 40 *Edw.* 3, r. 4. * *Rot. Orig.* 41 *Edw.* 3, r. 41. * *Exc.* (ad q. d.) 41 *Edw.* 3, p. 1, n. 14. * *Fin. Mich.* 42 *Edw.* 3. * *Exc.* (ad q. d.) 6 *Nic.* 2, n. 140. * *Br.* 1, p. 332. * *Rot. Fin.* anno 20 *Hen.* 6, m. 1. * *Rot. Cart.* 37 to 39 *Hen.* 6, n. 20. * *Fin. Trin.* 3 *Hen.* 8. * *Rot. Pat.* 18 *Edw.* 1, m. 10. * *Exc.* 18 *Edw.* 1, n. 62. * *Rot. Pat.* 13 *Nov.* 4 *Hen.* 8.

* Vide GRAFTON REGIS, p. 166 & 167.

Sunderland disparked it about 1651, when sir Peter Temple, bart. ancestor of the duke of Buckingham and Chandos purchased the deer, and enclosed the celebrated park at Stowe in Buckinghamshire*.

Wicken House or Wicken Park, as it is usually designated, was originally the park lodge, and was enlarged and converted into a commodious mansion by Mr. Hosier. The late lord Charles Fitzroy, brother of the duke of Grafton resided here many years, and it is now in the occupation of the Hon. Arthur Hill Trevor, M.P. for Durham.

THE ADVOWSON was immemorially appendant to the manor, till its junction with Wyke Dyve.

THE RECTORY was in the deanry of Preston. The presentations prior to 1278 were to the chapel of Wyke Hamon, and it is omitted in the taxations of 1254 (38 Hen. 3) and of 1291 (20 Edw. 1), but in the ecclesiastical survey of 1535 (26 Hen. 8) it is rated at £5. 8s. 11d. *per ann.*† On the thirty-first of May 1587 the benefice being vacant by the death of *Griffith Thomas* upon the petition of *sir John Spencer* the patron, the churchwardens, and principal inhabitants, it was united to the rectory of *Wyke Dyve*, and the two parishes have ever since enjoyed the same incumbent‡.

‘The parsonage house belonging to it was repaired and improved by Mr. Shortgrave, who was instituted to these benefices in 1690. It is now standing, but is a very mean building§.’

CHAPLAINS. *H. Clericus*, to the chapel of Wyken, by *William Fitz Hamon*.

Roger de Seyton. He was rector of Maidwell from 1263 to 1279.

Roger de Bellafago, to the chapel of Wykhamond, by *sir John Fitz Alan de Wulfington* [Wolverton] 26 Sept. 1272.

RECTORS. *William de Bellafago*, to the church of Wyke Hamonis, by *sir Ralph de Arden*, 10 July 1278.

William de Thornton, chaplain to the church of St. James of Wyk, 31 Mar. 1284.

William de Dorset. He was master of Brackley hospital 1309.

John Hastange de Woleerton, chaplain, by *Sir John de Wolverton*, 22 June 1314.

Thomas de Waldegrave, priest, 25 June 1349.

John Purdeve.

John Leyborn, priest, by *Richard Wydeville*, esq. 19 Aug. 1440.

John Cosyns, priest, by *Joan widow of Richard Wydeville*, esq. 3 Aug. 1442.

John Stahworthman.

Sir Thomas Lancaster, priest, by *Richard Wydeville*, lord Rivers, 21 Nov. 1458.

Sir Thomas Sparlyng, priest, 11 Feb. 1460.

Sir Thomas Gryffyth, priest, 19 Feb. 1467. He was rector of Maidwell St. Peter's 1449 to 1468.

Sir Thomas Hoodson, chaplain, by *Thomas Grey* marquis of Dorset, 12 Mar. 1504.

Sir William Watson, chaplain, by *William Spencer* of Althorp, esq. 28 July 1525. On his decease

Thomas Greeves, clerk, was presented by *Nicholas Strelley*, guardian of John son of *sir William Spencer*, a minor, and instituted 31 Jan. 1541.

William Atkynson, priest, 22 Apr. 1545. On his deprivation,

Cuthbert Brown, was presented by *sir John Spencer* of Althorp, and inst. 30 Aug. 1554.

Griffith Thomas died rector 1587, and the rectory was united the same year to Wyke Dyve.

‘The church is supposed to have been pulled down about the year 1619, thirty-three years after the two parishes were united, at which time the bells were taken out of the tower, and removed to *Wyke Dyve*. It was dedicated to St. James, and consisted of a body and chancel with a tower at the west end in which was three bells. It appears to have been about sixty foot long, and twenty foot broad. The tower was small, not above ten foot square within the walls, of which part was standing not many years ago.’ The site of the church is traceable at the corner of a close still called the old church yard, but no vestige of the building remains.

WYKE DYVE.

MANORIAL HISTORY. D'OYLEY FEE. HONOR OF HOOK NORTON. This portion of Wichla was the Saxon freehold of *Azor*, of whom some account has been given in the preceding parish*. It was then rated at 40s. yearly, but at the domesday survey was raised to 100s. yearly, and was held under Robert de Oligi or D'Oyley by *Roger*. It contained one hide and one virgate. The arable land was ten carucates; in demesne were three with seven servants; seven villeins and three bordars had four; and the remaining three carucates were waste or unaccounted for. There were ten acres of meadow; and a wood eleven furlongs long, by six furlongs wide†. *Robert D'Oyley*, leaving no male issue, was succeeded in his barony of Hook Norton in Oxfordshire by his brother *Nigel D'Oyley*, on the decease of whose great-grandson *Henry D'Oyley* it passed to his nephew and heir *Thomas de Newburgh* earl of Warwick, son of *Margery* his eldest sister‡. *John de Plessetis* earl of Warwick, in right of his wife, being second husband of *Margery* de Newburgh sister and heiress of Earl Thomas I, died in Feb. 47 Hen. 3 (1262-3) seised of the barony of Hook Norton and the lands of the late *Henry D'Oyley*§ his wife's uncle, by virtue of a conditional grant, if his wife predeceased him without issue¶; and his son and heir *Hugh de Plessetis* or *Plec*, by a former wife Christian

* Br. Willm's Bucks, p. 276.

† Augm. Off.

‡ Br. 1, p. 333.

§ Ibid. Reg. Oliv. Sutton Ep. Line.

¶ Domesd. fo. 225.

† Ec. 47 Hen. 3, m. 27.

‡ Rot. Pat. 37 Hen. 3, m. 11.

§ Vide Brooke Bucks, p. 238.

¶ Vide Thunford, vol. 1, p. 769 & 710.

‡ Vide Norton, vol. 1, p. 414.

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daughter and heiress of Hugh de Sanford², was found on the inquisition after the death of John de Dyve in 56 Hen. 3 (1272) to be paramount lord of Wyke⁷.

MANOR. *Guy or Wido de Dyve*, of Dadington in Oxfordshire in the time of king John⁸, was doubtless the immediate progenitor of the Dyves of Wyke Dyve, who held the manors of Dadington and Ducklington in Oxfordshire, members of the barony of Hook Norton.

In 18 Joh. (1216) the sheriff of Northamptonshire was directed to give full seisin to *Eustachius de Leon* of the land of Wyke which was a member of Ducklington, with all the chattels found on it, parcel of the lands of *Peter Picot*, which the king had previously given to him^a, under the name of *Eustachius de Es*, and by the general description of the lands of *Peter Picot* in the counties of Northampton and Nottingham^b. How *Picot* became possessed of Wyke does not appear, but it speedily returned to the Dyves; and by a fortuitous coincidence Henry de Dyve of Brampton—of a distinct family—about the same time gave a portion of his estate to Pouncey Picot, grandfather of another *Peter Picot*^c.

In the Testa de Nevill about 27 Hen. 3. (1242) *William de Dyve*, probably son or grandson of the above Guy, was returned as holding one fee in Wyke of the heir of Thomas (Newburgh) earl of Warwick, of the fees which were Henry de Oyly's, of the honor of Hook Norton^e. His son *John de Dyve* was slain at the battle of Evesham in 49 Hen. 3 (1265) and his lands given by the King to Osbert Gifford, between whom and Richard de Keybrook and Isabella his wife, the widow of Dyve, there was a plea in 52 Hen. 3 (1268) respecting the manor of Ducklington, which had been assigned to her in dower, and which was alleged to be equal in value to all his other lands, and was the chief manor to which the knight's fee belonged^d. In 1 Edw. 1 (1273) *Henry de Dyve*, son and heir of John, redeemed his lands in Oxfordshire and Northamptonshire for 300 marks (£200) by agreement with Osbert Gifford, according to the dictum of Kenilworth^e, which provided for the redemption of the estates of the offending barons and their adherents on payment of five years' annual value. He died in 5 Edw. 1 (1277) seised of the manor of Wyke held of Hugh de Plecy by the fourth of a fee, leaving *John de Dyve* his son and heir, an infant three years old^f, whose wardship and marriage were granted by the King to his queen Eleanor, rendering £10 yearly to the exchequer during his minority^g. This John died in 4 Edw. 2 (1310); and his son and heir *Henry de Dyve*^h was lord of Wyke Dyve in 9 Edw. 2 (1315)ⁱ. *Martha*, widow of Henry, held this manor in dower in 16 Edw. 3 (1342) when her son *John de Dyve* granted the reversion to feeoffees, who the following year levied a fine of the reversion to the said John for life, remainder to sir John Leukenore for life, remainder to *Henry de Dyve* son of the said John, and Elizabeth his wife, daughter of sir John Leukenore, in fee tail^k. On levying the aid for knighting the king's eldest son in 20 Edw. 3 (1346)^l, Thomas de Vernoun answered for half a fee in Wyke Dyve, of the honor of Hog-Norton or Hook Norton^l. Henry de Dyve, whilst in possession, demised this manor to

Roger Mortimer earl of March for life, and afterwards by deed released it to him in fee, and died without issue. Elizabeth, his widow, married sir Edward Twyford, who in 36 Edw. 3 (1362) recovered this manor for life in right of his wife^m.

DYVE OF WICKEN.

From public Records and other authorities.

Arms. Gules, on a bend Argent three ravens Proper.

GUY or WIDO DE DYVE of Dadington co. Oxon. 6 Joh. (1204) & 15 Joh. (1213).—LUCIA, d. of Ralph de Keisneto, 15 Joh. (1213).

WILLIAM DE DYVE of Wicken, living 27 Hen. 3 (1242) ob. incert. Hen. 3, Esc. Hen. 3, n. 29.

JOHN DE DYVE of Dadington and Ducklington, co. Oxon. and Wicken, set. 30 Esc. ISABELLA, living 32—2 h. RICHARD DE KEYBROOK, oc. Hen. 3, slain at Evesham co. Worc. 49 Hen. 3 (1265) Esc. 56 Hen. 3, n. 13. Hen. 3 (1269), mar. 52 Hen. 3 (1266).

HENRY DE DYVE, of Wicken, set. 22, Esc. 56 Hen. 3, ob. 5 Edw. 1 (1277) Esc. 5 Edw. 1, n. 21.

JOHN DE DYVE, of Wicken, set. 3, Esc. 5 Edw. 1, ob. 4 Edw. 2 (1310) Esc. 4 Edw. 2, n. 38.

HENRY DE DYVE of Wicken, set. 22, Esc. 4 Edw. 2, ob. MARTHA, widow 16 Edw. 3.—2 h. THOMAS DE VERNOUN? living 1 Edw. 3 (1327). (1342), 20 Edw. 3 (1346).

JOHN DE DYVE of Wicken, living 17 Edw. 3 (1343).

HENRY DE DYVE of Wicken, dead s. p.—ELIZABETH, d. of sir John de Leukenore, mar. 17 Edw. 3 (1343).—2 h. sir EDWARD TWYFORD, of Wicken, 36 Edw. 3 (1362). ob. 7 Ric. 2 (1383), Esc. 7 Ric. 2, n. 32. jure ux. 36 Edw. 3 (1362).

In 7 Ric. 2 (1383) on the decease of *Elizabeth*, successively widow of Henry de Dyve and Edward de Twyford, the manor of Wyke Dyve was found by inquisition to devolve on

Roger de Mortimer, earl of March, a minor eleven years of age, son of Edmund, and grandson of Roger, earl of March, the grantee from Henry de Dyveⁿ. This earl Roger in point of hereditary descent was the indisputable heir apparent to the throne, being son and heir of Philippa daughter and heiress of Lionel duke of Clarence third son of king Edward III. His pretensions were solemnly recognised by parliament in 8 Ric. 2 (1384): and it was through him on failure of the male line in his son earl Edmund, the monarchs of the house of YORK derived their claim to the crown. He died in 22 Ric. 2 (1398) seised (*int. al.*) of the manor and advowson of Wyke Dyve, and *Edmund* earl of March, a minor five years old, was his son and heir. 'In the second year of Henry VI (1423-4)^o, this Ed-

^a Rot. Pat. 37 Hen. 3, n. 11.

^b Esc. 56 Hen. 3, n. 13.

^c Rot. Claus. 6 Joh. n. 18, & Placit. 15 Joh. r. 9.

^d Rot. Claus. 18 Joh. n. 5.

^e Ibid. 17 Joh. n. 13.

^f Test. Nev. fo. 121.

^g Placit. 8. Mich. 52 Hen. 3. r. 6.

^h Placit. Hill. 1 Edw. 1. r. 4, & Pasch. 1 Edw. 1. r. 2.

ⁱ Esc. 5 Edw. 1, n. 31.

^j Rot. Orig. 7 Edw. 1. r. 4.

^k Esc. 4 Edw. 2, n. 38.

^l Cardigan MSS. Nom. Vill. p. 9.

^m Fin. 6 Edw. 3.

ⁿ 17 Edw. 3, & Esc. 7 Ric. 2, n. 32.

^o Inham MSS. No. 38, p. 189, 'Comp. Walt. Paries.'

^p Esc. 7 Ric. 2, n. 32.

^q Esc. 22 Ric. 2.

^r Br. 1, p. 329.

^s Esc. anno 3 Hen. VI. n. 32.

^t Vide BRAMPTON, vol 1, p. 82.

Elizabeth, and her husband sir *John Mordaunt*, bart. M.P. for Warwickshire, who had acquired Grafton Park in 1802, and from whom both estates have descended to their grandson sir *John Mordaunt*, bart. M.P. for South Warwickshire, the present proprietor (1835).

From Mordaunt evidences, parish registers of Axbridge,* co. Somerset and Wicken†, and other authorities.

Arms. HOSIER. Per bend sinister Ermine and Ermine, a lion rampant Or. *SHARP.* Azure, a pheon Argent, within a border charged with eight Torteauxes.
Crest. An eagle's head erased Azure, ducally gorged Or, holding in his mouth a pheon Argent. *PROWSE.* Sable, three lions rampant Argent, two and one. *Crest.* Out of a ducal coronet Argent a demi-lion rampant gardant of the First, collared and ringed Or. *MORDAUNT.* Argent, a chevron between three estoiles Sable. *Crest.* On a wreath Argent and Sable, a Moor's head affrontée Proper, vested Or, and wreathed round the temples Argent and Sable.

[illegible]

* Vide DALLINGTON, vol. 1, p. 130. † Vide GRAPTON REGIS, p. 169 & 167. ‡ Vide NEWBOTTLE, vol. 1, p. 104. § Vide ALTHORP, vol. 1, p. 109.

[illegible]

THE RECTORY is in the deanery of Preston. In the taxations of 1254 (38 Hen. 3.) and of 1291 (20 Edw. 1.) the rectory of Wykevide was rated at 6½ marks (£4. 6s. 8d.) *per ann.* deducting an annual pension of 2 marks (£1. 6s. 8d.) to the abbey of Osney near Oxford; and in the ecclesiastical survey of 1535 (26 Hen. 8.) at £10. 3. 5½ *per ann.* deducting 10s. 7d. for synodals and procurations to the archdeacon of Northampton. 'In 1587 (29 Eliz.) *viz* John Spencer the patron both of this rectory and the neighbouring church of Wyke-Hamon, with the churchwardens and chief inhabitants of both parishes, offered a petition to the Bishop of Peterborough representing that the church of Wyke-Hamon being void by the death of the last incumbent Griffith Thomas, and being but of the yearly value of £5. 8s. 0d. and consisting only of the tythe of three ploughlands, and both under the same patron, and the churches not being a fight-shot asunder, and either of them sufficient to receive the people of both the villages, they thereupon

requested, that the word of God might be taught, and the sacraments administered, one week in the one, and another week in the other perpetually from time to time. This petition bears date on the tenth of *May*; and in pursuance of it the said parishes were united on the thirty-first of *May* the same year. The rector however pays double procurations and synodals, and is twice called over at the visitations.* The parliamentary commissioners in 1655 certified Wicken to be a parsonage presentative worth £100 *per ann.* in the patronage of lady Penelope Spencer; and that Mr. Richard Sherthe incumbent received the profits and supplied the cure by himself and Mr. Thomas Harrison his curate†. The rectory now consists of 126 acres of glebe land, and the great and small tithes of the consolidated parishes, and of the underwood in the wood called Limesend in Leckhamptstead in Buckinghamshire. The parsonage house is a considerable distance south of the church, and 'was built about the year 1703 out of the ruins of Lord Spencer's seat.'

WYKE DYVE RECTORS. *Richard de Manerthin*, clerk, by sir William de Breant, 17 Apr. 1222.

Nicholas de Kingston.

Adam de Aene, deacon, by the king, by reason of the minority of John son of Henry de Dyve, 1 July 1283.

Robert de Kirlington, chaplain, by sir John Dyve, 13 Mar. 1303.

John de Yaneceworth.

John, son of *Clement de Wykham*, priest, by sir Thomas and John de Vernoun, 10 Jan. 1347.

Walter Greham, priest, by the king, by wardship of the earl of March, 17 Feb. 1388.

John Purdon, priest, 24 Oct. 1389.

John Colyas. He was rector of Thorp Mandeville 1446 to 1452, and of Draughton about 1450.

Richard Marshall, by Jacquet duchess of Bedford and Richard Wydeville lord Rivers 8 Oct. 1451.

Richard Hopkyns.

John Andrew, priest, by Anthony earl Rivers, 11 Feb. 1472.

Sir Robert Lynley, by the abbot of Woburn by grant from Thomas marquis of Dorset, 14 Mar. 1499.

Sir Thomas Colys, by John Spencer, esq. 14 Oct. 1516.

Sir Nicholas Cooke, chaplain, was presented by Richard Strelly of Strelly, co. Notts. by wardship of John son of sir William Spencer, and inst. 2 Oct. 1541. On his resignation,

Antony Pebworth, was inst. 6 Mar. 1544 on the presentation of the same patron. His death introduced

Robert Caudlyffe, who was presented by sir John Spencer, and inst. 26 Oct. 1558.

Sir William Castle, rector, was buried here 25 Jan. 1574-5, and

Thomas Knight was inst. 17 Apr. following, on the presentation of sir John Spencer.

John Carr, rector, was buried here 18 Feb. 1582. He has been previously noticed under Brington and Bodington. His successor

William Proctor was inst. 19 July 1583 on the presentation of sir John Spencer. In his incumbency the rectory was united to Wyke Hamon. He was rector of Brington from 1601 till his death in 1627; but exchanged Wicken for the rectory of Boddington, with

Simon Gibbs or Gibbs, who was inst. 14 Sept. 1596 to the rectory of Wyke Dyve with Wyke Hamon on the presentation of the same patron. He held the rectory of Brampton with Wicken, and was buried here 23 Nov. 1603, when

Thomas Campion was presented by Robert lord Spencer, and inst. 21 Feb. 1603-4. He had been curate of Brington, and was buried there in 1613, having resigned this benefice to

William Chamberlain, A.M. who had also been curate of Brington, and who was inst. 17 Jan. 1610-11 on the presentation of the same patron. On his decease

Robert Simcotts, A.M. was presented by the same patron, and inst. 8 Oct. 1625. His resignation introduced

Richard Sherthe, A.M. who was inst. 29 Mar. 1628 on the presentation of William lord Spencer. He was buried here 4 Nov. 1662, and was succeeded by

John Hatheaway.

Francis Palmer was inst. 22 Jan. 1666-7 on the presentation of Robert earl of Sunderland. He died in 1680, and

William Cuffe of New Inn hall Oxf. A.M. was presented by the same patron, and inst. 3 Apr. 1682. He was a non-juror, and on his deprivation

Robert Shortgrave of Univ. coll. Oxf. A.M. was inst. 4 Aug. 1690 on the presentation of the same patron. He died 23 Jan. 1702, and

William Trinnell of King's coll. Camb. A.M. 1698, D.D. 1717, was presented by Anne countess dowager of Sunderland, and inst. 24 Feb. following. He obtained the rectory of Brington in Mar. 1716-7, and resigned both benefices in 1721 on his installation to the deanery of Winchester, when

John Whitfield of Trin. coll. Camb. A.M. 1705, B.D. 1712, & D.D. 1717, was presented by Charles Hosier, esq. and inst. 9 Dec. 1721. He was also rector of Dickleburgh in Norfolk, which he retained till his death in 1736, but resigning this benefice,

Thomas Williams of Jesus coll. Oxf. A.M. was inst. 11 Mar. 1722-3 on the presentation of the same patron. He was buried here 17 Mar. 1744-5, and

Henry Quartley of St. Mary hall Oxf. A.M. was presented by the same patron, and inst. 9 Aug. 1745. He held with it the rectory of Preston Bisset in Buckinghamshire from 1749, and was buried here 2 Jan. 1795. His successor

John Methuen Rogers of New coll. Oxf. LL.B. was inst. 29 May following on the presentation of Mrs. Elizabeth Prowse, widow, his sister-in-law. He was patron and rector of Berkeley in Somersetshire, where he died in Aug. 1834, aged 85 years. He bequeathed £6000 towards the building and endowment of the church at Rodden, a chapelry to Berkeley; £1800 to the district church at Frome in Somersetshire; a sum exceeding £1000 to the new church and a house for the curate at North Bradley in Wiltshire; and sums of smaller amount to other churches, altogether exceeding £10,000. He published a sermon recommending frugal and economical management in articles of subsistence, 1796. 8vo. On his cession, the same patron presented

John Mordaunt of Ch. Ch. coll. Oxf. A.M. second son of sir John Mordaunt, bart. who was inst. 15 July 1798. He died 27 Sept. 1806, and

Henry Quartley of Queen's coll. Oxf. A.M. nephew of the former rector, vicar of Walverton in Buckinghamshire, was inst. 4 Dec. following, on the presentation of the same patron.

THE REGISTERS commence in 1559.

THE CHURCH, dedicated to St. John the Evangelist, stands at the northern extremity of the village towards the forest, and is described by Bridges as consisting 'of a body, south ile, porch, and chancel leaded, and a north ile tiled. At the west end is a plain broad coped tower, seventy-six foot high, with pinnacles at the top, and having in it five bells^d. The length of the church and chancel is seventy-nine foot six inches, the breadth of the body and iles is thirty-three foot. The length of the tower is sixteen foot six inches; the breadth of it is twelve foot nine inches. This tower was built in 1617 by *Robert Lord Spencer*, as appears by the date over the ringing-loft. On the south side are the arms and quarters of *Spencer*, with the supporters and helmet. On the bells are five several inscriptions. On the first, *Robertus Spencer Baro Spencer de Wormleighton ad honorem Dei dedit hanc campanam & [ad] exemplum aliorum*. On the second, *Robertus Spencer Miles Baro Spencer de Wormleighton ad honorem Dei dedit hanc campanam & [ad] exemplum aliorum*. On the third, *Two hundred weight was I before, added to me eight hundred more. This is no robbing of a Kirke, But accounted a good work*, 1620. On the fourth, *Four Bells are turned into one, Yet losse the Church receved none. Three hundred weight was added more, And paid by Wickins Patrons score*. 1619. On the fifth, *Laudo Deum verum, plebem voco, convoco Clerum, Defunctos ploro, pestem fugo, Festa decoro*. 1619.

The old tower is preserved but the church appears from a small marble tablet within the south entrance to have been "designed and built by Thomas Prowse, esq. in the year 1758, and finished after his decease." The tower is 10 ft. 10 in. long, by 12 ft. 10 in. wide; the nave 51 ft. long, by 33 ft. wide; and the chancel 22 ft. 5 in. long, by 15 ft. 2 in. wide. There are four clustered pillars on each side of the nave carried up to the roof, which branches out in arched compartments. The roof of the chancel is grained, with fan tracery in imitation of King's college chapel, Cambridge. The interior is fitted up with peculiar neatness and taste; the floor is of freestone, the pews and open benches of oak, the pulpit and altar handsome, and a small marble altar-piece was presented in 1833 by the hon. A. Trevor, M.P., who also restored and replaced the old font which had lain neglected in the church-yard since the rebuilding of the church.

MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS.

NAVE. Each angle of the Nave is adorned with a handsome mural memorial. I. On the south side of the west wall is a monument of variegated marble terminating in a pediment. Over the inscribed tablet is an urn of sienna marble decorated with flowers and foliage, and backed by a grey pyramid. On the bell beneath, arms of *Hosier*, impaling, Ar. a bear rampant S. muzzled O. *Barnard*.

To

the Memory of CHARLES HOSIER, Esq. (son of GEORGE HOSIER Esqr. of BERWICK in the County of SALOP) and MARY, his Wife, (Daughter of St EDWARD BARNARD Knight, of BEVERLY in YORKSHIRE.)
He dyed Dec^r 15th 1750 aged 90 years.

She on the 1st of August 1724.

They were the affectionate and beloved Parents of
ANNA MARIA SHARP, their only Child, who lyes
buried near them, and who left Two surviving
Daughters, ELIZABETH, married to THOMAS PROWSE
Esqr. of AXBRIDGE, in the County of SOMERSET, and
MARY, married to JAMES BOOTH Esqr. of WHITFIELD
in HEREFORDSHIRE.

As a Testimony of Gratitude and Affection

this Monument was erected by THOMAS PROWSE, and
ELIZABETH, his Wife, in the Year 1758; when this
Church was rebuilt.

II. Collateral to the last, on the north side of the west wall, is a white marble monument of corresponding size and termination. On the cornice over the inscription, stands a genius leaning on, and holding a reversed torch. Beneath, arms: *Sharp*, impaling *Hosier*.

To

The Memory of ANNA MARIA SHARP, widow of JOHN SHARP, Esq.
and Daughter of CHARLES HOSIER Esqr. and MARY his wife.
She was born October ye 21st 1691, and died September the 30th 1747.
She was exemplary in every Christian Virtue, and most eminently so
in a constant and cheerful obedience to her Parents, in a most faithful
and affectionate Regard to her Husband, and in a tender and
watchful Care over her Children, by whom She was greatly
beloved and lamented.

She piously erected the Monuments in this Church
to her Husband and Son, but modestly omitted to mention
Herself. Her affliction for their Loss was followed by
several Years of Pain and ill Health which she suffered

^d Br. 1, p. 30. 'Before the parishes of Wyke Hamon and Wyke Dyce were united there were here only two bells; but upon the union of the two churches, three were brought hither from Wyke Hamon, and the whole new cast at the expence of Robert Lord Spencer the patron of the living.'

with the greatest Patience and cheerfulness, resigned to God, and easy to all about Her, preserving to the last that most obliging Temper whereby she engaged the Esteem of all who knew Her.

III. On the east wall opposite, is a tablet of white marble flanked by two skulls, and surmounted by Sharp, with crest, impaling Hosier. The shield is supported on each side by an infant seated on the cornice, and backed by a grey pyramid.

Here lies

JOHN SHARP, Esq.
 Eldest Son of Dr. JOHN SHARP, ABP. of YORK.
 He served his Country, and Her late Majesty
 Queen ANNE in several Parliaments, & at the
 Board of Trade. He was a Polite Scholar, an
 Accomplish'd Gentleman, a most Affectionate
 Husband, and Father, a True Friend, and a De-
 sireable Companion, Beloved and Esteemed by all
 who knew him.
 He Dyed much Lamented at Grafton Park,
 March the 9th 1726. Aged 49.

IV. On the east wall, opposite to the first is a pedimental tablet of white marble, on which is placed a flaming urn, with a pyramidal back-ground of green veined marble. Beneath, Sharp.

Here Lies

JOHN HOSIER SHARP,
 The only Son of JOHN SHARP Esq.
 Who Dyed January the 6th 1734. Aged 13 Years.
 A Youth of Promising Capacities,
 And Endeared to his Relations
 By a peculiar Resemblance of his Father,
 Not only in Person, Temper, and Deportment
 But in his Virtues too,
 Some of which he was Obligated
 To exercise Severely
 By a painful, ling'ring and incurable Malady,
 Which he bore
 With undaunted Resolution and Exemplary Patience.

V. At the east end of the south wall, on a handsome tablet of white marble edged with black:

IN MEMORY OF
 EMILY ELIZABETH FITZROY
 WHO DIED APRIL XVIII
 MDCCXXVII
 IN THE XXth YEAR OF HER AGE.

"PRAISED BE GOD'S NAME FOR GRANTING ME
 SUCH A HAPPY LIFE IN THIS WORLD, AND SAVING
 ME FROM SORROWS, BY TAKING ME, SO EARLY,
 TO ANOTHER AND A FAR BETTER."

FROM HER OWN WRITING, FIVE
 WEEKS BEFORE HER DEATH.

AND IN MEMORY OF
 LORD CHARLES FITZROY
 WHO DIED DECEMBER XX. MDCCXXIX
 IN THE LXVth YEAR OF HIS AGE.
 HE WAS SECOND SON OF AUGUSTUS HENRY DUKE OF GRAFTON.
 BOTH FATHER AND DAUGHTER, WHO ARE BURIED IN THE
 CHANCEL

DIED PREPARED FOR
 "THE HOUR OF DEATH"
 "AND THE DAY OF JUDGEMENT."

On slabs in the nave:

To the Memory of
 THOMAS QUARTLEY Esq.
 He was born at Hunsitham in Devonshire, & died at Bath
 December 21st 1766 in the 34th year of his Age,
 After a long and painful illness which he bore
 with exemplary patience and Resignation.

2. On a brass plate

HERE UNDER LYETH THE BODIE OF THOMAS
 HOWSE GENT. HIGH CONSTABLE OF THE
 HUNDRETH WHO DIED YE 21th OF JUNE
 AN. DNI 1633. WHO MARRIED
 MARY CLARKE DAUGHTER TO ROBERT
 CLARKE GENT. AND HAD ISSUE ONE SONNE
 HIS AGE 36 YEARS.

CHANCEL. VI. On the south wall is a beautiful marble cenotaph by Bacon, jun. Above an inscribed rectangular tablet, at the dexter corner is an open book with "Let her own works praise her," leaning against a panel, on which are figures of Religion and Charity in bas relief, and over which depends a branch of cypress, surmounted by an urn elegantly draped, and the whole finished with a pyramidal back-ground of dove-coloured marble. At the base, within a lozenge, Prowse quartering Newborough, and on an inscoecheon Sharp quartering Hosier.

To the Memory of ELIZABETH
 Daughter of THOMAS SHARP D.D. Archdeacon of NORTHUMBERLAND,
 and Widow of GEORGE PROWSE, Esq. late of Wicken Park;
 who died February the 22d 1810. Aged 77.

This Monument was erected by her three Nieces, as the affectionate Expression
 of their Veneration for her Character, and their Gratitude for her kindness.

CLELEY HUNDRED.

*Stranger, whose Eyes to this Memorial turn
Where Wicken's sorrow points to Prowse's Urn,
If grief for Worth remov'd thy Heart reserves,
Then add thy tribute to the Village Tears.
Oh! wouldst thou Peace should cheer thy Pilgrim way,
And Joy salute thee on thy rising day,
Go, live like her, by God and Man cared,
Then die like her, and be for ever blest.*

3. On a slab within the altar rails :

Hic jacet Catharina
Gulielmi Trimmell Hujus Ecclesie Rectoris
Uxor:
Que Dote Pulchra
Prole Pulchriori
Moribus Pulcherrimis
(Quales Pudicas Ornant Matronas
Quales Sacerdotum Decent Uxores :)
Consortem Viva Satis Beatum Reddidit;
Miserrimum Defuncta.
Cujus In Memoriam
Optime De Marito
Optime De Liberis
Quibus Vitam Impendebat Merita
Hoc Saxum Poni curavit
Maritus in Conjugem Animi Non Ingrati
Et Ut Liberi Olim Matris

Nec Sint Immemores Nec Dissimiles
Obijt Jul. 14. Anno Domini 1716 .Ætatis 39.

4. On a brass plate :

HIC JACENT OSSA MARGARETE
SHERT FILIE RICHARDI SHERT
HJUS ECCLESIE RECTORIS QUE
A TENERIS ANNIS SPECTANS AD
MANUM PLENORIBUS DOMINE DOMINE
ELIZABETHE COMIT' SOUTHAMPT'
QUASI FLOS DECIDENS PLACIDE
QUIEVIT IN DOMINO 19 DIE MARTII
ANNO DOMINI 1634. ÆTATIS 20.
ABIT NON ORBIT
PRÆTERIT NON PERIIT.

5. Slab for

Mary Gibbs w. of Charles G. gent,
ob. 1 Dec. 1714 æt. 43.

BENEFACTIONS. (Vide p. 117.) **BREAD FUND.** This fund consists of £84 new 4 per cent annuities standing in the names of trustees. The stock was purchased with £80 arising from three several benefactions and a contribution of the parishioners. The original amount was £100, but the fund was reduced through the insolvency of a person in whose hands it was placed. The dividends are laid out in bread, which is given away on the 5th of January by the churchwardens among poor persons not receiving parochial relief.

SHARP'S GIFT. The sum of £100 bequeathed by Mrs. Sharp in 1747 to the poor of Wicken is in the hands of sir John Mordaunt, bart, M.P. who pays £5. 5s. yearly to the churchwardens, which is given away in bread to the amount of 2s. every Sunday at the church.

WHITTON'S CHARITY. Edward Whittton, esq. who died in 1774, bequeathed £100 for supplying bread, to be distributed on the 5th of January the testator's birth day, among poor persons of the parish of Wicken not receiving alms or other collection from the parish. The legacy was laid out in the purchase of £114. 12s. sd. Old S. Sea Annuities in the names of rev. Henry Quartley, senior, and other trustees, all since deceased, but since his death the dividends have been received by the bankers of the rev. Henry Quartley the present rector, and the amount placed to his credit. The bread was regularly given away by Mr. Bradbury one of the churchwardens till 1815, when he left the parish; and in consequence it seems of some mistake or misapprehension, the dividends were not again applied for the purposes of the charity till 1825, when the arrears were laid out in articles of clothing, blankets, &c., and the dividends have since been annually distributed in bread on the 5th of January.

PROWSE'S CHARITY AND SCHOOL. Mrs. Elizabeth Prowse who died in February 1810, gave by will one share in the Grand Junction Canal, the annual interest to be disposed of by the minister and churchwardens of Wicken towards the support of a schoolmaster, and the expences of the Day and Sunday schools. The dividends arising from the Canal share are received on behalf of the rector, and are of variable amount, but generally about £10 per annum. They are applied in the proportions of three fourths and one fourth towards the support of a Day school and Sunday school in Wicken maintained by sir John Mordaunt, bart. M.P. The school house is in the Wyke Hamon division of the village.

CUSTOM. On Holy Thursday, the rector, in commemoration of the union of the two parishes of Wyke Dyve and Wyke Hamon gives 3 bushels of flour, 6lb. of butter, 6lb. of currants, and 3s. worth of spice and caraway seeds to be made into cakes, of which every householder has one. The villagers attended by the rector in his canonicals, assemble under an old sycamore tree on a spot called "Gospel Bank" adjoining the entrance gate to the rectory; and after singing the 100th Psalm, the cakes are distributed with the addition of 8 gallons of beer.

DAGNALL OR DAGENHALL a farm in this parish, bordering on Denshanger, was sold in 16 Car. (1640) by Henry lord Spencer to Anthony Gibbs, gent.* whose descendant Charles Gibbs, gent. was in possession in the time of Bridges†; but it is now united to the Mordaunt estate.

WYKEN HURST or WOOD WICKEN is a small hamlet of four or five cottages adjoining Whittlebury forest.

* Mordaunt evidences.

† Br. 1. p. 333.

TO THE READER.

The present portion of the "History and Antiquities of Northamptonshire" was intended to have comprised the Hundreds of TOWCESTER and WYMERSLEY: and the lengthened delay in its appearance, as well as its limitation to the former Hundred, require some explanation and apology.

To the general causes of delay pointed out "To the Reader" in the Address prefixed to Part IV. I must *now* add, that for the last two years my state of health has utterly incapacitated me for the least mental exertion, and my work has consequently been wholly suspended.

Towcester Hundred, which forms about one-third of a Part, having been printed prior to my indisposition, and it being uncertain when I may be able to resume my literary labours, I have been induced for the relief of my own mind, and for the satisfaction of my subscribers, to issue this fragment with proportionate embellishments, and at a proportionably reduced price.

The concluding statement in the Address above referred to, incited some of my friends to call a meeting of subscribers, and—egotistical as I fear it may be deemed—I cannot refrain from embodying here the report of its proceedings.

At a Meeting of Subscribers to the "History and Antiquities of the County of Northampton," now in the course of publication by Mr. GEORGE BAKER, holden at the George Hotel, Northampton, on the 20th of October, 1837,

The Marquess of NORTHAMPTON in the Chair,

Resolved,

1st. That, having read with extreme concern the statements contained in the Address prefixed by Mr. Baker to the last published Part of the History of the County of Northampton, we are anxious to record our high opinion of the industry, research, and accuracy displayed by Mr. Baker in the four Parts already published, and the confidence we entertain of his continuing to exert the same ability and perseverance in conducting this valuable work to its completion: That we deeply regret to find (from the circumstances unavoidably incident to a work, which, from all experience, could not be undertaken otherwise than by subscription, and could only be brought out in successive parts, published at long intervals) that the number of original subscribers has been diminished by deaths and change of residence, with other contingencies, to such an extent as seriously to affect the resources of the author: That such a work, in our judgment, has the strongest claims upon all persons who value the investigation and preservation of the historical records of this kingdom, and more particularly upon the residents of the county to which it relates: That it would be a subject of disappointment and regret to the proprietors and residents of Northamptonshire, if, through such cause, it were finally left incomplete: That we therefore feel ourselves imperatively called upon, not only from sentiments of the most sincere respect for the character and literary merits of the author, but also from more general and public motives, to make an appeal to all persons possessed of property within the county, or otherwise interested in topographical history, who have not already patronised the work, to add their names to the list of subscribers, and thereby contribute that additional support, which may, perhaps, be necessary to ensure the continuance of the publication.

2dly. That such an appeal, which may be justly considered a matter of public concern, will be best made through a committee of county gentlemen, appointed for that special purpose.

3dly. That the following noblemen and gentlemen (with power to add to their number) be requested to form themselves into a committee, of whom three shall be competent to act, for the purpose of preparing and forwarding a circular address, soliciting the support of such public bodies, noblemen, and gentlemen, not already subscribers, who are either connected with the county or may be supposed otherwise to take an interest in works of this nature, and of adopting any other measures which may be deemed desirable for promoting the success of the undertaking.

The Marquess of Northampton
Earl of Cardigan
Earl Spencer
Lord Lilford
Lord Bateman
Hon. Captain Spencer
Hon. and Rev. H. C. Cust
Hon. H. H. Hutchinson
Hon. and Rev. P. A. Lecky
Sir W. Wake, Bart.

Sir Justinian Isham, Bart.
Sir J. H. Palmer, Bart.
Rev. Sir G. S. Robinson, Bart.
Sir R. H. Gunning, Bart.
Rev. Sir Henry Dryden, Bart.
Sir C. Knightley, Bart. M.P.
Sir A. De Capell Broke, Bart.
Sir Watkin O. Pell, B.N.
W. R. Cartwright, Esq. M.P.
Thos. P. Munsell, Esq. M.P.

Rev. R. W. Baxter
B. Botfield, Esq.
E. Bouverie, Esq.
E. S. Burton, Esq.
Rev. George Butler, D.D.
Rev. J. L. Crawley
W. Grant, Esq.
A. Isted, Esq.
W. C. Kerr, M.D.
John Nethercoat, Esq.

Stafford O'Brien, Esq.
J. P. Ord, Esq.
A. Robertson, M.D.
W. R. Rose, Esq.
Rev. H. Rose
W. L. W. Samwell, Esq.
H. B. Sawbridge, Esq.
T. R. Thornton, Esq.
Rev. C. F. Watkins
Rev. J. C. Whalley

"TO THE NOBILITY, GENTRY, & CLERGY OF THE COUNTY OF NORTHAMPTON.

In pursuance of the above resolutions, the foregoing committee beg leave to call your attention to the following extracts from Mr. Baker's Address.

'My researches have been facilitated by the most unreserved communications, and my labours been smoothed by courtesy, condescension, and kindness, beyond my most sanguine expectations, from the nobility, gentry, and clergy, within the line of my past investigation; and I shall

PREFACE.

continue to prosecute my enquiries with unabated zeal, and with feelings of the warmest gratitude towards those who promote my views either by their subscription, their contribution of plates, or their personal kindness.

Though I have a subscription list of which I may be justly proud, as it contains none but spontaneous patrons (never having personally applied to or solicited a single subscriber) yet perhaps I may be excused remarking on the present occasion, that an accession to the list would be very acceptable. I have lost many subscribers by death and the fluctuations of property, since the commencement of my undertaking. Some individuals excuse themselves from subscribing on the plea that they shall not live to see its completion; and others wait till that period before they purchase. The former class might be reminded that life is equally uncertain to the author, and *their principle*, if generally acted upon, would put an effectual veto on all expensive works, which can only be published by individuals under the guarantee of a subscription: the latter class too, if numerous, would prevent the publication they profess to desire.

The case of Mr. Baker has peculiar claims to our consideration. In estimating the extent of his undertaking, it is to be borne in mind that no similar work has ever hitherto been executed or attempted by any person of moderate income, otherwise than in dependence upon the pecuniary support of public bodies or opulent individuals.

Mr. Bridges, who collected the materials for the former History of the County, was a Barrister of ample private fortune, and could therefore afford to expend, as in fact he did, several thousand pounds on this pursuit. He died in 1724, and left his valuable collection of materials to his family, to be committed to such persons as should be thought best qualified to arrange and publish them. After an unsuccessful attempt on the part of his brother, the gentlemen of the county, in 1755, were obliged to take up the business, and a committee was formed at the Summer Assizes, of which Sir Thos. Cave, Bart. was chairman. An address was circulated by the committee soliciting public subscriptions, as the only means by which such a work could be undertaken. Yet with all the advantages of high patronage was finally entrusted to the Rev. Peter Whalley, by whom it was at length completed. The conduct of the work and talent, such were the difficulties to be encountered in the publication, that the second volume did not appear till 1791, being 29 years after the first volume, and about 36 years after the commencement of the undertaking.

Mr. Baker commenced his publication with a list of subscribers fully sufficient to justify the most sanguine expectation. But, from the causes above alluded to in his address, combined with others beyond his control, and without any disparagement of his ability or the merits of his work, this list has been gradually diminishing, and he has lost 180* subscribers since he first issued his prospectus. The names however of *all* the subscribers, whether lost by death or otherwise, are still retained on the list, as showing the extensive patronage which the author once enjoyed, and affording evidence of his reasonable hopes and expectations.

Whatever might have been Mr. Baker's claim to patronage at the commencement of his labours, no one who has inspected their progress can doubt that this claim now stands on a much higher ground, when he has proved himself by the Parts already published so fully competent to the undertaking, that in fact no County History can now be named, under whatsoever advantage it may have been accomplished, with which the History of Northamptonshire may not be placed in proud competition.

NORTHAMPTON, Chairman."

The result of this kind and flattering demonstration in my favor,—owing in a great measure perhaps to the extremely limited circulation of the Resolutions and Address,—was not such as might have been reasonably anticipated.

Whilst my pecuniary means were adequate to the prosecution of my work, the pleasure of the pursuit was a sufficient reward; but I should be acting disingenuously to my friends and subscribers, and unjustly to myself, if I were any longer to conceal the fact, that in carrying it on to the present time, I have made a much greater pecuniary sacrifice than a due regard to my own comfort or interest will warrant or justify. Should my labours terminate with the present portion, I cannot take my leave without again expressing my heartfelt gratitude to all those who have hitherto promoted my views and cheered my progress by their subscription, their contribution of plates, or—what is still more highly valued by me and more deeply imprinted on my heart—their personal regard and kindness.

NORTHAMPTON, October, 1841.

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BRINGTON RECTORY.

Designed by Edward Blore Esq. W.L. & W.L.A.

Towcester Hundred

is traversed the whole length by the Roman Watling Street, now the Chester Road, and is bounded on the north by Newbottle Grove hundred; east by Wymerley hundred; south by Cleley and Norton hundreds; and west by Norton and Fawsley hundreds.

In the Saxon certificate of Northamptonshire hundreds, between the death of Edward the Confessor and the Norman conquest, this hundred, then called "Vyoeste," is stated to consist of an hundred hides as in the days of King Edward; whereof eighteen hides were rated or taxed; forty hides were inland or demesne; twenty hides were the king's own land; and twenty-one hides were waste;^a leaving one hide unaccounted for.

In the Domesday survey the name of "Tovecestre," synonymous with the modern Towcester, is adopted for this hundred; though Towcester itself is not placed within the pale of its jurisdiction, but will be found under Wiceslea Wapentake.^b The incongruity however is rather implied than positive; for notwithstanding it may naturally be inferred that all the vills between the heading of one hundred and the introduction of another, are in the *former* hundred, and the "Index Generalis Locorum" in the volume of Indexes to Domesday published by the Record Commission is compiled on that principle; yet on close investigation, as applied to Northamptonshire, *at least*, to which my attention has been exclusively directed, it appears extremely doubtful whether any vill beyond the *first named* after the heading can be safely appropriated; for the succeeding names are in many instances in distant parts of the county, and are *now*, and may be presumed to have been *then* in different hundreds. The very first entry is a striking illustration of this remark, and fortuitously embraces the very case in point. The Terra Regis commences with Wiceslea Wapentake under which follow consecutively the surveys of Ketton, Tixover, Barrowden with its members, Luffenham with Sculthorp, and Casterton, all in Rutlandshire; Norton now in Norton hundred; *Towcester in Towcester* hundred; and Sutton and Whitfield in Sutton hundred.^c Under all the subsequent headings of Wiceslea the place immediately in contact is invariably in Rutlandshire,^d with the single exception of Stoke Doyle,^e and the *other places* where there are more than one named, are as miscellaneous in their locality as those in the preceding extract. How these apparent discrepancies are to be accounted for, is not the present question, but it may be suggested that they perhaps partly originated in the surveys having been written down by Norman scribes from Saxon informants, who omitted to prefix the hundred to all the places described, and consequently the unappropriated vills would nominally be attached to the *last named* hundred. A correct Index Villaris of the Domesday hundreds must therefore remain a hopeless desideratum. Towcester or Towcester hundred occurs only five times in that record. Under the first entry are Foxley, still in Towcester hundred, Siresham in Sutton hundred, and Heyford in Newbottle Grove hundred;^f under the second, Evenley now in Sutton hundred, and Ashby Canons in Norton hundred;^g under the third, Higham, still in Towcester hundred, and Plumpton in Norton hundred;^h under the fourth, Wappenham, now in Sutton hundred;ⁱ and under the fifth, the locality is not mentioned but unquestionably refers to Gayton, still in Towcester hundred.^k

In the hidarium of Henry II. Towcester hundred includes Gayton, Pateshull, Foxley, Hinton, Wappenham, Evenley, Grimscothe, Potcote, Tiffeld, Whittlebury, Towcester, and Grafton.^l In 19 Hen.3. (1234), Grafton was, as now, in Cleley hundred.^m In the book of knights fees 24 Edw.1. (1295), Hinton, Wappenham, and Evenley, are transferred to their present hundred; Whittlebury does not occur; and Towcester hundred is omitted altogether.ⁿ In the Nomina Villarum 9 Edw.2. (1315), this hundred is reduced to its present boundaries,^o comprising the parishes and hamlets of ANTHORP (including Foscothe, and Challock), then parochial members of Towcester; GAYTON; HIGHAM or COLD HIGHAM (including GRIMSCOTE, FOSTER'S BOOTH, and part of POTCOTE); PATESHULL (including ASCOTE, ESTCOTE, DARLSCOTE, and part of FOXLEY); TIFFIELD; and TOWCESTER (including BURCOTE or WOOD BURCOTE, CALDECOTE, and HANLEY).

^a Antiq. Soc. MSS. No. 69. ^b Domesd. fo. 219.3. ^c Ibid. fo. 219 & 219.3. ^d Ibid. fo. 219, 220, 221, 221.3, 225, 226, & 228.
^e Ibid. fo. 221. ^f Domesd. fo. 223.3. ^g Ibid. fo. 226.3. ^h Ibid. ⁱ Ibid. fo. 227. ^j Ibid. fo. 228. ^k Cotton MSS.
Vesp. E. xxiij. fo. 96. ^l Rot. Claus. 13 Hen.3. ^m Cardigan MSS. Nom. Vill. p. 51 to 93. ⁿ Ibid. p. 10.

TOWCESTER HUNDRED.

The Hundred was probably included in the royal grant of the manor of Towcester within a century of the Norman conquest; but no direct evidence of their union exists prior to 9 Edw.2. (1315), when Aymer de Valence earl of Pembroke was certified to be lord of the hundred and manor of Towcester,^a and died seised of writs.^b In the third year of *Edward III.* this court was farmed out to bailiffs. These officers had gone beyond the bounds of their jurisdiction, and had obliged the inhabitants of the hundred to make presentments before them of matters relating to the assize of bread and beer, hue and cry, and manslaughter, for which offence they were fined by the justices itinerant. The same year a complaint was laid before the Court of King's Bench, that in all the public amercements and taxations assessed upon the Hundred, one moiety was usually demanded by the inhabitants of the Town of *Towcester* and the adjoining hamlets. This custom appeared to be a grievance, and judgment was given in favor of the townsmen, that for the future the inhabitants of *Towcester* should choose a like number of assessors with the rest of the Hundred, who should agree to lay the burden equally upon all persons within the Hundred in proportion to their abilities. And here it may not be amiss to observe, that the town and Lordship of *Towcester*, with the hamlets belonging to it, are supposed upon a moderate computation to contain one half of the Hundred.

From this period the hundred has uninterruptedly accompanied the manor down to George William Richard 5th earl of Pomfret, the present lord (1837).

The hundred court and the annual statute for hiring of servants are held at Foster's Booth.

^a Cardigan MSS. Nom. Vill. p. 10.

^b Esc. 17 Edw. II. n. 75.

^c Br. 1. p. 259. Placit. Coron. anno 3 Edw. III. Rot. 15.

^d Ibid. Rot. 70.

TOWCESTER HUNDRED.

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ABSTRACT OF RETURNS OF CHARITABLE DONATIONS, &c. 1786.

Ordered by the HOUSE OF COMMONS to be printed, 1816.

Names of the Persons who gave the Charity.	When given, and whether by Deed or Will.	Description of the Charity—for what purposes given—and whether in Land or Money.	In whom now vested.	Gross amount of that given in money.	Annual Produce of the Money.	Clear annual produce of that given in Land.
ANTHORPE.						
Jane Leeson	- 1646—Will	To the Poor and, for teaching poor Children—Rent-charge	Michael Woodhull, Samuel Blencowe, Richard Kerby, and William Ives	-	-	3 0 0
Thomas Nicoll	- 1726—D ^a	For Bread to the Poor—Money	Churchwardens and Overseers	5 0 0	0 5 0	-
Captain Sheppard	- —D ^a	D ^a —D ^a	-	-	-	-
Forscutt	- —D ^a	D ^a —D ^a	-	-	-	-
Robert Porter	- —D ^a	D ^a —D ^a	-	-	-	-
COLD HIGHAM.						
Jane Leeson	- Unk.—D ^a	To the Poor—Rent-charge	Michael Woodhull, Samuel Blencowe, and Richard Kerby	-	-	1 0 0
GAYTON.						
Unknown	- D ^a —D ^a	To the Poor not receiving parish relief—Land	Sir Thomas Sanwell, Thomas Marriott, George Rowell, James Hawley, Peregrine Bertie, John Darker, Richard Kent, Benjamin Warren, John Rowell, and The Rector	-	-	33 0 0
PATTISHALL.						
Katherine Levison	- 1674—D ^a	To two poor widows £20; for apprenticing two poor boys £20—Land	—	-	-	40 0 0
Jane Leeson	- 1646—D ^a	To the Poor—D ^a	—	-	-	1 0 0
Thomas Cleave	- 1647—D ^a	For bread to the Poor—D ^a	—	-	-	3 7 0
From Bidford, Warwickshire	- —	To the Poor—Money	Unknown	-	3 2 0	-
— Young	- Unk.—Will	For teaching poor Children—Land	—	-	-	4 5 0
-	- D ^a —D ^a	To the Poor—both	Stanton and others	-	2 0 0	0 18 0
TIFFIELD.						
Jane Leeson	- 1646—Will	D ^a —Money	H. Wight, William Ives, and R. [M.] Woodhull	-	0 10 0	-
Commissioners of Inclosure	- 1780—Act of Parl.	D ^a —Land	Rector, Churchwardens, and Overseers	-	-	2 11 0
TOWCESTER.						
William Sponne	- 1451—Deed	To the Poor and other purposes—D ^a and tenements	Simon Adams, Thomas Grant, William Flemenan, John Flemenan, James Hall, William Gordon, John Webb, John Fashard, John Elliott, Richard Davis, John Hill, and John Jenkinson	-	-	69 9 4½
Thomas Bickerstaff	- 1695—Will	For maintaining three poor in three almshouses at Towcester; repairing and rebuilding the same if needful; and for other purposes—Land	D ^a	-	-	20 15 7½
Mary Burnhill	- 1776—	In addition to the above almshouses—Money	D ^a	*100 0 0	-	-
Thomas Cleave	- 1639—Deed	For bread to the Poor—Land	Samuel Sharp, John Wood, John Sheppard, and John Webb	-	-	3 10 0
Jane Leeson	- 1646—Will	To the Poor—Rent-charge	Lucy Knightley, Henry Wight, Michael Woodhull, William Ives, Charles Fox, Samuel Blencowe, and Richard Kerby	-	-	3 0 0
John Clarke	- 1677—D ^a	D ^a D ^a	Churchwardens and Overseers	-	-	32 0 0
John Jones	- 1694—D ^a	D ^a and the grave-maker—Land	Churchwardens	-	-	0 10 0
William Sheppard	- Unk.—D ^a	To the Poor—Rent-charge	Unknown	-	-	0 5 0
John Sheppard	- D ^a —D ^a	D ^a D ^a	D ^a	-	-	1 0 0
Richard Bland	- D ^a —D ^a	D ^a D ^a	D ^a	-	-	0 5 0
Frances George	- D ^a —D ^a	D ^a D ^a	D ^a	-	-	1 5 0
-	- D ^a —Unk.	D ^a — Money	John Rodd	-	*25 0 0	-

* To be placed in three per cent. consols.

b Now reduced to £1 per annum.

c Now on mortgage.

TOWCESTER HUNDRED.

POPULATION TABLE

Of the Hundred of TOWCESTER, extracted from the Returns to Parliament, 11 Geo. IV. (1831).

PARISHES.	AREA.	HOUSES.				OCCUPATIONS.			PERSONS.		
	* English Statute Acres.	Inhabitants.	Families.	Houses building.	Uninhabited.	Families employed in Agriculture.	Families employed in Trade.	Families not comprised in these Classes.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Abthorpe (*)..... Parish	1960	88	105	—	—	51	46	8	217	260	477
Cold-Higham Parish	1660	66	69	—	1	46	7	16	188	203	391
Gayton Parish	1580	85	91	1	4	34	27	30	230	231	461
Pattishall Parish	2460	166	181	—	1	89	47	45	360	382	742
Tidfield Parish	2530	30	32	—	3	24	6	2	68	63	131
Towcester (*) Parish	2790	542	559	5	19	190	302	67	1297	1374	2671
	12980	977	1037	6	28	434	435	168	2360	2513	4873

* This Column forming a part of the Official Return has been retained though extremely erroneous, as will appear on a comparison with the statement of the number of acres given under the respective parishes from local inquiry and the inclosure awards.

(*) The Parish of Abthorpe includes the Hamlets of Challock and Fosote.

(*) The Parish of Towcester includes the Hamlets of Caldecott, Handley, and Wood Barcot.

TOWCESTER HUNDRED.

BAPTISMS.				BURIALS.			MARRIAGES.	
Years.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Years.	Marriages.
1821	58	60	118	46	49	95	1821	31
1822	86	66	152	41	41	82	1822	31
1823	61	66	127	48	56	104	1823	34
1824	59	60	119	46	51	97	1824	42
1825	47	49	96	45	39	84	1825	39
1826	86	86	172	43	46	89	1826	39
1827	76	66	142	28	46	74	1827	42
1828	83	65	148	39	34	73	1828	38
1829	65	60	125	40	44	84	1829	41
1830	60	83	163	45	63	108	1830	40

ABTHORP,

was originally a chapelry to Towcester, and so continued till 10 Geo. 2 (1736) when by an act of parliament, reciting that the parish of Towcester was of large extent, very populous, and consisted of several hamlets and inships which lay at a great distance, and had therein only one parish church distant two miles from the hamlets of Abthorpe and Foxcoate; that certain charitable bequests were made to those hamlets by Thomas Nicoll in 1726 on condition that they should become a distinct parish within three years after his decease or within three years after the resignation or death of rev. Mr. Palmer then incumbent of Towcester; that the inhabitants of Abthorpe and Foxcoate had for a long course of years maintained their own poor, distinctly from the township of Towcester, and had for time out of mind constables, overseers of the poor, and chapelwardens of their own, and were not chargeable with the parish rates and assessments levied in the parish of Towcester, otherwise than the vicar of Towcester was intitled to the small tithes arising within the said hamlets; and further reciting that the ordinary, the patron, the trustees of Leeson's charity, and the vicar, churchwardens, and principal inhabitants of Towcester were desirous the chapel of Abthorpe and Foxcoate might be made a parish church, and the hamlet of Abthorpe and Foxcoate a separate and distinct parish, to the intent that the charitable donations so given for their benefit might be preserved and improved, it was enacted that the said chapel from the 24th of June 1737 should be, and for ever continue a parish church; and that the several messuages and lands within, or reputed to be within the hamlet of Abthorpe and Foxcoate [including Challock] should be deemed and taken to be the parish thereunto belonging.

Abthorp, with Foxcoate, and Challock, contains about 1930 acres, the whole of which is old inclosure, except about 310 acres in Abthorp which was inclosed by act of parliament 4 Geo. 4 (1823). The principal proprietors are George Henry duke of Grafton, K.G. lord of the manor, who has about 810 acres; Samuel Dendy of London esq. Bucknell wood about 425 acres; the vicar, in right of his church, about 120 acres as lessee of Leeson's charity land, and about 50 acres of glebe; and William James Baily of Shenley in Buckinghamshire esq. about 105 acres. The parish is bounded on the north, east, and south-east by Towcester; south by Silveston in Norton hundred; and north-west by Wappenham in Sutton hundred; and west and north-west by the Sow which divides it from Slapton and Bradden in Norton hundred, and on reaching Towcester changes its name to the Tove.

MANORIAL HISTORY. *Robert de Paveley* lord of PAULERSPUY in the reign of King John, claimed seven virgates or yardlands in Abetorp, against Geoffrey Fitz-Peter and Aveline his wife.^a The result, or even the subsequent connection of any descendant of either claimant with this vill, cannot now be traced; and about a century later, on the inquisition after the death of *Aymur de Valence* earl of Pembroke in 17 Edw. 2 (1323), Abthorp and Foxcoate were members of his manor of Towcester.^b The demesne lands in Abthorp parcel of the manor of Towcester, are noticed in the successive inquisitions of its lords, and passed with the manor down to the Fermors;^c but in 20 Edw. 4, (1480), in the grant from the prior and convent of Bradinstoke of their manors of Towcester and Burton Latimer, to William Colyngton, esq. and John Ashby a power was given in default of payment of the reserved rent, to distraint on Colyngton's manors of "Abthorp called Halplace," and of Bradfield in Wiltshire.^d This is, however, an isolated notice, and the estate thus designated, probably, and Challock manor, certainly, lost its distinctive manorial character when blended with the other Fermor lands in Abthorp.

George, second earl of Pomfret, in July 1759 in consideration of £12,400 sold all his Abthorp estate including Bucknell woods, Challock, and certain chief rents to *Ralph*, second earl of Verney in Ireland,^e who in 1781 conveyed it in trust to sell; but died in March 1791 before a sale was effected. In May following, the mortgagees, the trustees, and *Mary Verney* (afterwards created baroness Fermanagh in Ireland) niece and heir at law of the late earl, joined in the sale of two farms containing between three and four hundred acres in Abthorp, to the *rev. Thomas Coker* of in Cadwallader Coker successively in tail male. On his decease in 1799 his eldest nephew *John Coker* of Bicester in Oxfordshire, esq. came into possession; having previously in 1792 purchased of the said *Mary baroness Fermanagh*, Bucknell wood and the residue of the Verney estate here described as the *Manor* of Abthorp. He died in January 1819, leaving an only daughter and heiress *Charlotte Priscilla*, who succeeded to this manor, which she sold in July following, to her first cousin *Thomas Lewis Coker, esq.* in whom the estate purchased by his great uncle the *rev. Thomas Coker* was vested under the entail created by his will.

^a Hutton MSS. "Plac. temp. Joh."

^b Esc. 17 Edw. 2. n. 75.

^c Pomfret evidences.

^d Abstract of title.

TOWCESTER HUNDRED.

COKER OF BICESTER CO. OXON. AND OF ABTHORP.

From Dunkin's Bicester, with additions from title deeds and information of Mr. Sergeant Adams.

Arms. Argent, on a bend Gules, three leopard's faces Or.

Crest. A moor's head in profile, wreathed Argent and Gules.

JOHN COKER of Worle co. Somerset (descended from Robert de Cocre of East Coker=ELEANOR d. & h. of Robert Veale of Mapowder co. Dorset
co. Somerset temp. Edw.1 living 7 Hen.5 (1419).

ROBERT COKER of Mapowder co. Dorset. esq. ob. 2 Hen.7 (1486)=ALICE d. of Robert (or Thomas) Turges of Melcomb Turges co. Dorset

1. JOHN COKER of Mapowder co. Dorset. esq.=AVICE d. of Thomas Mallett of Dorset. esq. ob. 5 Hen.8 (1513).
co. Somerset.

THOMAS COKER of Mapowder co. Dorset. esq.=JANE d. & h. of Richard ELEANOR; w. of Richard Pomeroy
Dorset. esq. ob. 29 Hen.8 (1528). Sutton of Salisbury of Rowden co. Devon esq.

1. ROBERT COKER of Mapowder co. Dorset. esq.=ELIZABETH d. & h. of Henry Des- 2. JOHN COKER, of Po- 3. EDMOND COKER prior of Totness co. Devon.
Dorset. esq. ob. 14 Eliz. (1571). ricke co. Bucks, & after of Northington co. Wilts esq.
ob. 1606 (4 Jac.) of Bicester co. Oxon esq. ob. 1618 (16 Jac.)

COKER of Mapowder co. Dorset & HILL DEVERILL co. Wilts. ISABELLA; w. of Alice; w. of
Anne d. of ob. 1625.=CADWALLADER COKER of Bicester co. Oxon esq. ob. 1633=CATHERINE d. of Canbyrn ob. 1635.
John COKER of Bicester co. Oxon. esq. ob. 1635=CATHERINE d. of
Rev. THOMAS COKER of Bicester co. Oxon. ob. 1743=MARY d. of William Hearst of Salisbury esq. CATHERINE.

1. JOHN COKER d. 2. Rev. THOMAS COKER of Depton co. Gloucester. MARY d. of
Bicester co. Oxon & after of Bicester co. Oxon; purchased Kent esq.
ob. esp. 1766. lands in Abthorpe 1791; ob. 4. p. 1799. dead 1799.

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After the decease of Thomas Lewis Coker, esq. the manor of Abthorpe was decreed for sale; and in Feb. 1832 it was purchased of the trustees by John Malsbury Kirby of Towcester gent. who died in 1824, leaving an only child Sarah wife of Henry Elliott of Green's Norton, gent. who sold it in 1827 to the trustees of George Henry, 4th duke of Grafton K.G. the present proprietor (1837).

THE VILLAGE is two miles south east of Towcester, and in the time of Bridges, with Foxcote and Challock, contained about threescore families.^a By the census of 1801 Abthorpe with its members contained 69 houses and 393 inhabitants; by that of 1811, 75 houses and 424 inhabitants; by that of 1821, 80 houses and 417 inhabitants; and by that of 1831, 88 houses and 477 inhabitants. The annual quota of land tax for this parish is £37. 3s. 1d. at 4s. in the £. The estimated value of real property as assessed to the property tax of 10 per cent. for the year ending April 1815 amounted to £2327. The poor rates for the year ending Easter 1832 raised £297. 3s. 6d. at 9s. in the £. The wake is observed on the Sunday after midsummer.

THE RECTORY, or impropriate tithe, still continues part and parcel of, and will be noticed under the rectory of Towcester.

ADVOWSON AND VICARAGE. The advowson and the endowment of the Vicarage were settled on the formation of the parish by the act of parliament 10 Geo. 2 (1736) already referred to, which enacts that from the 24th of June 1737 there shall be a vicar of the parish church of St. John Baptist in Abthorpe, who "shall perform all such divine offices in the said church, and such occasional services as by law or usage ought to be performed on the Lord's day, and preach therein every Lord's day, and shall also read divine service on every Wednesday, Friday, and Holiday, and shall catechise the children of the intended parish upon every Sunday in the afternoon, and shall reside in the said intended parish of Abthorpe; that Robert Porter present schoolmaster of the school founded by Jane Leeson, from the said day shall be vicar and incumbent of the said church, and be instituted to the same by the lord bishop of Peterborough, or other ordinary of the place for the time being, and shall have the care of souls for so long time as he shall continue master of the said school; that the bishop of Lichfield and Coventry (impropriate rector and patron of the vicarage of Towcester) and his successors, and the trustees or feoffees of Jane Leeson's charity and their successors for ever, shall be alternate patrons of the said parish church and owners of the

^a Br. 1. p. 278.

advowson thereof, and that the next presentation after the death, resignation, cession, or deprivation of Robert Porter, shall be vested in the feoffees of Leeson's charity; that the person at any time hereafter appointed to be master of the said school shall be in the holy order of priesthood and shall upon such nomination receive a presentation to the vicarage, from the person or persons intitled by virtue of this act, who shall seal the same, and direct it to the bishop of the diocese, or ordinary of the place, for institution and induction thereunto; and the said vicar and his successors for ever shall hold the same as long as he shall continue master of the said school and no longer, provided always that the person who shall be vicar of the parish church of Towcester, shall not be capable of holding the vicarage of Towcester and the vicarage of Abthorpe at the same time.

"It is further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that all such vicarial tithes and surplice fees as have been usually paid and arisen within the hamlet of Abthorpe and Foxcoate, shall from the said 24th of June be vested in the said vicar and his successors for ever, charged with the clear payment of £6 yearly to the vicar of Towcester, during so long time as he continues vicar of Towcester, and no longer. And it is also enacted that the feoffees of Leeson's charity are required within thirteen weeks after the passing of this act to grant a lease of the capital messuage or mansion house in Abthorpe commonly called Mrs. Jane Leeson's house, and all the closes and grounds adjoining, and all the lands lying dispersed in the open fields of Abthorpe to the said capital messuage belonging, except the school house or free school, erected by Jane Leeson, and one room in the said capital messuage called the *great chamber*, with free ingress, egress, and regress thereto to the said feoffees, their heirs and assigns, and all timber trees and topping of all trees whatsoever, or which hereafter shall be growing on the said demised premises, to hold to the said Robert Porter for ninety-nine years if he shall so long live, reside, teach school and continue vicar of Abthorpe, at the yearly rent of £57. 17s. 4d. and the additional yearly rent of £3 for every acre of greensward that he should plow, ear, break up, or convert into tillage of the premises thereby demised, and so in proportion for every greater or lesser quantity than an acre: and the feoffees of the said charity are required within three weeks after every future incumbent shall be admitted, instituted, and inducted into the vicarage of Abthorpe, to make a lease of the same premises to him on the same terms and subject to the same rents and covenants, to the intent the vicar and his successors may hold the premises comprised in such lease, under the same rents and covenants for ever."

This vicarage has been four times augmented by Queen Anne's bounty; in 1738 with £200 to meet a legacy of £200 from Thomas Nicoll, gent.; in 1804 with £200 by lot; in 1807 with £200 to meet a donation of £200 from Mr. Marshall's trustees; and in 1829 with £200 to meet a legacy paid by the bishop of Lichfield and Coventry. It now consists of the perpetual lease of the Leeson charity estate subject to the rent and covenants above stated; 20A. 1½. of land in Abthorpe purchased in 1738 with the first augmentation; 13A. 1½. 18p. purchased in 1810 with the second and third augmentations; and 17A. 0r. 30r. allotted by the commissioner of inclosure in lieu of the vicarial tithes or moduses, and surplice fees usually paid within the parish. The fourth augmentation is not yet vested in land, but is placed in the funds.

The vicarage house, formerly Mrs. Leeson's residence, stands at the north-east corner of the village green.

VICARS. Robert Porter of Linc. coll. Oxf. A.M. the first vicar was instituted 22 July, 1737, and was buried here 26 Mar. 1739,* when

Richard Smith, A.B. was presented by the feoffees of Leeson's charity and inst. 11 Sept. following. He was buried here 7 Jan. 1778,* and

John Jones was inst. on the 28th of the same month, on the presentation of the bishop of Lichfield and Coventry. He was buried here 6 Mar. 1793,* when

Pryce Jones of Brazenose coll. Oxf. A.M. was presented by the feoffees of Leeson's charity and inst. 20 June following. In 1820 he obtained the vicarage of Church Broughton in Derbyshire. He was buried here 29 Nov. 1831,* and

Thomas Colwell of coll. Camb. was inst. 19 Apr. 1832 on the presentation of the bishop of Lichfield and Coventry.

THE COMMUNION PLATE consisting of a flagon, chalice,

and paten, was purchased with the bequest from Thomas Nicoll in 1726, and is inscribed "Donum Thomæ Nicholl Civis Londinensis in usum Ecclesiæ Parochialis de Abthorpe."

THE REGISTERS commence in 1583.

THE CHURCH, dedicated to St. John the baptist, stands at the upper end of the village green, and is a long low building, consisting of a nave, north aisle, south porch, and chancel. At the west end of the nave is a small wooden bell turret. The nave and north aisle are 42ft. 6in. long, the nave 17ft. 10in. and the aisle 10ft. 3in. wide; and the chancel 25ft. long by 16ft. 2in. wide. The interior has been recently paved and pewed. The font is modern. The nave is divided from the north aisle by four pointed arches on low multangular pillars with plain capitals; and the nave and chancel are continuous without distinction.

MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS.

NAVE. I. On a neat marble tablet against the north wall:
H.S.E.

VIR REVERENDUS PRYCE JONES
QUI DIEM SUPREMUM OBIT
OCT. CAL. DEC. MDCCCXXXI.

ÆTAT. SUE LXVIII.
SACERDOTALIBUS IN HAC ECCLESIA MUNERIBUS
DUODEQUADRAGINTA ANNOS FUNCTUS.
UXOR SUPERSTES
MARITO MULTUM DEFLENDO
H.M.P.C.

II. On another neat marble tablet, opposite to the last:

SACRED TO THE MEMORY OF
SARAH

ELDEST DAUGHTER OF THE REV. PRYCE JONES
VICAR OF THIS PARISH
AND WIFE OF SAMUEL TUPMAN, ESQ.
OF HIS MAJESTY'S CIVIL SERVICE
WHO LIES INTERRED IN A VAULT
IN THE MIDDLE AISLE
IMMEDIATELY OPPOSITE THIS TABLET.
DIED THE 16TH OF APRIL 1830 AGED 39 YEARS.

* Par. Reg.

TOWCESTER HUNDRED.

CHANCEL. III. On a plain tablet of black marble against the south wall:

Near
this place are Interd
the Remains of the
Rev^d. MR. RD. SMITH
Vicar of this Parish
39 years
who died Jan^y 24th
1778 aged 69.

IV. On a similar tablet collateral to the last:

NEAR
this place
are interrd
the Remains of the
Rev^d. JOHN JONES
Vicar of this Parish
15 years,
who died March 1st 1793
AGED 41.

LIKEWISE, the Remains
of his eldest
Daughter ELIZABETH
who died the 21st of March
1793
AGED
15.

V. On a large rectangular tablet of black marble in a freestone frame, collateral to the two preceding:

M.S.
JOSEPH KEY, A.M.
Ecclesiarum de Austrey et Monkskirby
in com. Warwick
Pastoris;
Quem,
Ingenio, Doctrinâ, Pietate,
Haud modice insignem,
Mors
diu sperata
nec immatura quidem,
A Dolore ad Requiem
demum abstulit,
Die Maii 24^{mo}.
Anno Ætatis sue 80,
Salutis Humanæ 1783.
Hoc Amoris et Officii
Monumentum posuere
Guelicmus et Anna Baily.

VI. On a large tablet of black marble in the south-east angle of the east wall:

To the Memory of JANE LEESON spinster
who by her will dat. 27 May 1646 did devise to her
Feoffees therein named their Heirs and Assigns all her
Capital Messuage and Lands in Abthorp in trust to pay
to the Poor of Abthorp & Foxcoate 3 pounds p^r ann.
& to the Poor of several other neighbouring towns 27
pounds p^r ann. & also 8 pounds p^r ann. to A School Master
to teach the Poor children of Abthorp & Foxcoate gratis
in the School house then lately erected by her there.
Obt. 1^o. die Aprilis 1648. Also

To the Memory of THOMAS NICOLL;
Citizen of London, who by his Will dat. 15th. of August
1726 did Bequeath 200 pounds for the procuring G.
ANN's Bounty and encreasing the Value of the Living
of Abthorp & Foxcoate, when the same should be made
A distinct Parish from Towcester, as in pursuance of
the said Will it was made accordingly by an Act of

Parliament passed this present year 10th GEORGE II.
and did further Bequeath 50 shillings p^r ann. to the
Poor in bread and 50 shillings p^r ann. to the Parish Clerk
& also 20 guineas for Communion plate.

N.B. By the said Act of 10 GEORGE II^d. this Parish
Church & School were united & the R^e. Rev^d. the Lord
Bishop of Litchfield & Coventry & the Feoffees of the
said JANE LEESON's Charity for the time being
were thereby declared alternate Patrons of the said
Church & School for ever.

To perpetuate the Memory of these Charitable Donations
so worthy of our Imitation, was this Monument erected
by order of the said Feoffees,
A.D. 1737.

VII. On a tablet in a wooden frame against the east wall:

Within
this Chancell
and in the Chapell
yard do rest till the com-
ing of Christ the Bodys here mentioned
Robert Rogers clerk B.D. and Bridge-
et his wife. He dyed March y^e 21 Anno
Dom. 1687 Aged 78 years. She Dyed June
y^e 10 Anno Dom. 1703 Aged 89 years.
Both buried in this Chancell. Not
far from this place resteth also y^e Body
of Mrs. Christana 3^d Dauter of the above
named Robert and Bridget Rogers.
Who was buried August y^e 24th Anno
Dom. 1719 aged 70 years. And near also
to the said Christiana lyeth buried m^r.
Charity Hart 4th Daughter of Robert &
Bridget Rogers who Dyed.

Near to them also lyeth Bridget Spence
Eldest Daughter of Charity Hart who
was buried Jan. y^e 6. Anno dom. 1709
Aged 29 years and half, as also Jenima her
only child who was buried October
y^e 13th Anno dom. 1709, aged two years.

On SLABS:

1. I.S.
Reliquie
Georgii Pares Civis Londinensis
Et
Marie Shuttleton Patris & Filie
Illa preveniens decessit Maii 24^o Æt. 24
Ille 28 Junii obiit
Anno 1735.
Also Rebecca the Wife of
George Pares who Died
August y^e 2^d. 1752 in the
60th year of her Age.

2. Daniel Whitton Senior gent. 26 Sept. 1737 æt. 78.
Daniel Whitton Jun^r. 26 Dec. 1736 æt. 24.
Mrs. Mary Whitton 3^d. w. of Daniel W. 3 Mar. 1769
æt. 86.
3. Within the altar rails:

I.S.
Benjamin Key Hujus Pagi Municeps
Qualis Vir fuerit,
Dies Indicabit Supremus.
Benemerito certe Parenti,
Hoc qualecunque Monumentum,
Pius Fili affectus Posuit.
Anno Christi MDCCXLII.

4. I. S.
Reliquie Mortales Annæ Key.
Vixit
Silipearia; Pauperibus,
ut in Re tenui large benignæ.
Moriens
Eternam Salutem Christo unice fidens,
Deo misericordie humiliter expectavit
Decessit
Longæva, annos nata XC—
A.D. MDCCCLV.
5. In Memory of
Mr. Valentine Barford
of Foscoate who Died the 20th of Novr.
1746 in the 70th Year of his Age.

An unwearied and successful
Endeavourer and an early and gene-
rous Benefactor towards making this
a separate Vicarage from Towcester:
whose compassionate regard for the
good of Souls and whose readiness and
cheerfulness to serve Mankind to the
utmost of his ability are too faith-
fully recorded in the Bosoms of
many to need this affectio-
nate Monumental Remembrancer
and will undoubtedly perpetuate
his Memory when Time shall have
cast oblivion over the decaying
Stone.

BENEFACTIONS (vide p. 263). LEESON'S CHARITY and SCHOOL. Mrs. Jane Leeson, spinster, a native of Franckton in Warwickshire, where Thomas Leeson her ancestor, or father, was Lord of the Manor, by will dated 27 May 1646 devised her capital messuage and lands in Abthorp subject to a fee farm rent to the crown of £9. 17s. 4d. yearly, to Sir William Farmer [Fernor] bart. and nine other feoffees, on trust, out of the rents and profits to pay yearly £30 towards the relief of the poor people for the time being of certain towns and villages in the following proportions, viz.

	£. s.		£. s.
Abthorpe & Foxcoate	3 0	Shapton	1 0
Towcester & Wood Barcott	2 0	Bradden	0 10
Brackley	2 0	Greens Norton	1 10
Morton Pinckney	1 0	Blakesley	1 10
Paulerspury	1 10	Easton & Hulcot	1 0
Whittlebury	1 0	Cold Higham & Grimscote	1 0
Silverston	1 0	Pattishall	1 0
Siresham	1 0	Tiffield	0 10
Wappenham	1 10	Whitefield	0 10
Helmdon	1 0	Alderton	1 0
Weston & Weedon Pinckney	1 0	Blisworth	1 10
Adson	0 10	Plumpton	0 10
		Frankton co. Warw.	2 0

such several sums of money to be yearly delivered on the 10th of December to the respective churchwardens and overseers of the poor of the several towns and villages, and to be divided and distributed by them on the 17th of December, at their discretion, in the presence and with the advice of the resident parsons, vicars, or curates; and after reciting that she had built a school house near her dwelling house at Abthorp, she willed, that it should be employed for a school house and that her feoffees, their heirs and assigns should pay to the schoolmaster to teach the poor children of the said town gratis the sum of £8 yearly; and she appointed that when her feoffees should be reduced by death to five or six, the survivors should make a feoffment of the said messuage and lands to five or six other honest and sufficient persons residing in some of the said towns to the same uses, and so in like manner as often as the number should be so reduced; and she directed that "the feoffees should once in every year meet at her said messuage on the 30th of May, and then set down in a book a just and true account of all the monies they should have received and paid in the past year, and how they had disposed of the same; and that at every meeting and account the feoffees should have an allowance out of the rents and profits, for their diet for one meal, the charges thereof not exceeding 40th, and should yearly retain the sum of £4 to be equally divided amongst them for their pains in the performance of her will;" and that if the rents and profits should not be sufficient to pay the fee farm rent, yearly sums, and other charges before mentioned, then in every such year a rateable abatement should be made of the sums for the relief of the poor and of the £4 allowed to the feoffees and 40th for diet.

The feoffees in 1735 granted a lease of all the premises, subject to the covenants and provisoes already detailed under the vicarage, to the rev. Robert Porter the schoolmaster, for six years at a yearly rent of £57. 17. 4, which, by the act of parliament 10 Geo. 2 was converted into a perpetual lease to the vicar for the time being. The reserved rent, after the payment of the stipulated allowances mentioned in the will, leaves £4 for contingent expences, such as new trust deeds, and repairs of the school, and of the great chamber for the use of the trustees; the rest of the house and the farm buildings are by the terms of the lease to be kept in repair by the vicar.

The estate comprises a dwelling house, now the vicarage house, with 60a. Or. 28p. of old inclosed land, and an allotment of 56a. 3r. 6p. awarded by the commissioner of inclosure in lieu of open field land and of exchanges. The whole allotment was originally 61a. 1r. 24p. but under a power in the act to raise money for defraying the expences of inclosure, 4a. 2r. 18p. were deducted and sold for £200; but re-purchased by the trustees in 1824, and let to the vicar as yearly tenant. The whole expences attending the inclosure amounted to upwards of £800, and after the sale of £600 Old South Sea Annuities and of two closes in Dalscote purchased in 1726 with the accumulated surplus of rents, a balance was left in the hands of the feoffees.

The commissioners for inquiring into charities, report that "the present vicar declares it to be his intention to superintend the school, and to supply a person to act for him in teaching. As the vicar for the time being is by the terms of the Act of Parliament necessarily master of the school, the trustees could not now, probably, exercise the power they originally had of removing the master for non-performance of his duties in the school; in the case, however, of his not teaching in person, it is incumbent on the trustees, we think, both to require that a sufficient assistant be employed, and also to take care that an adequate salary be provided for him."^a

The commissioners thus conclude: "In the year 1792 both the sums given to the poor, and the schoolmaster's salary of £8, were augmented at the rate of 10% in the pound, in consideration of the increase of income by the accumulation of surplus money, the same course having been adopted for a few years in and subsequently to the year 1768; and the payments thus augmented were continued until the year 1806, when a resolution was passed, stating that the trustees taking into consideration the very small balance then in hand, and the repairs necessary to be done about the room belonging to them, resolved to discontinue the augmentation; and since that time the several allowances have been paid at the original rate. Except in the instances just noticed, the trustees appear to have considered the property devised from the accumulation of surplus income as applicable, at their discretion, to the improvement of the Estate value of that estate, exclusively upon the person holding the united offices of vicar and schoolmaster. Perhaps under Parliament does not in terms affect the property derived from surplus income and accumulations, and it may be questioned whether the charity for the poor was not originally capable of augmentation as well as that for the school, we think the trustees would do right to obtain legal advice upon the subject for their guidance."^a

NICOLLS'S CHARITY. Thomas Nicoll gent. by will dated 15 Aug. 1726 charged his messuage and farm in Denshanger (int. al.) with £2. 10s. yearly to be laid out in penny loaves of bread—twelve of the loaves to be given every Friday morning after prayers to twelve ancient poor people of Abthorp and Foxcoate as long as divine service should be continued in the church there on Wednesdays, Fridays, and holydays, and so long as the minister should preach there every Sunday morning and read the common prayers, and catechize the poor children every Sunday afternoon, and duly administer the holy sacrament in the church at least six times every year, viz.: in the three great festivals of the church, the first Sunday in Lent, the sixth Sunday after Trinity Sunday, and Advent Sunday; and £2. 10s. yearly to the parish clerk of Abthorp under the restrictions above mentioned and subject to the provisions hereafter mentioned; and he also bequeathed £200 towards procuring £200 more, commonly called Queen Anne's money, to be applied for increasing the value of the living of Abthorp and Foxcoate, on condition that it should within three years after his decease or within three years after the then incumbent should die or quit the same, become a distinct parish from Towcester; in which case, he bequeathed 20 guineas towards the purchase of communion plate; and his intent was, that the two sums for bread, and for the parish clerk should not be paid unless Abthorp and Foxcoate should become a distinct parish. The £200, and the bequest for communion plate, were disposed of agreeably to his will, as already stated; and the two bequests for bread, and for the parish clerk used to be regularly paid; but the owners of the land charged have refused to pay these sums any longer, as the parochial duties required by the will, have been discontinued by the vicar.

SHEPPARD'S AND PORTER'S GIFTS. Two benefactions of £5 each from Captain Sheppard and Mr. Robert Porter, the interest to be given in bread to the poor of Abthorp. These sums were borrowed and applied for the use of the parish, and the sum of 10^s. is annually paid out of the rates in respect thereof, and laid out in bread, which is distributed at the church among poor persons by the parish officers on the Saturday after Old Midsummer day.^a

FOSCOTE or FOXCOATE consists of nearly 400 acres of old inclosure, situate between Abthorp and Towcester.

MANORIAL HISTORY. Foscoate is associated with Abthorp, as a member of the manor of Towcester, in the inquisition after the death of Aymer de Valence earl of Pembroke in 17 Edw. 2 (1323).^b It first occurs as a distinct manor in 18 Hen. 7 (1502-3) when *sir Richard Knightley** and Joan his wife, daughter and heiress of Margery Garnon, sister and heiress of Richard Harwedon, esq.,* conveyed their manor of Foscoate called "the Grove" in the parish of Towcester, to *John Assheby* of Abthorp.^c In 18 Hen. 8 (1526) John Assheby gentylman, and Lettice his wife, covenanted with *Edmund Knightley, esq.*, attorney general of the duchy of Lancaster, that the manor of Foscoate was of the clear yearly value of £30. 6. 8.; that neither he nor his heirs should sell the said manor, nor any lands in Abthorp, nor elsewhere in the county of Northampton to any person other than the said Edmund, and that if at any time thereafter he or they made sale or offer to any other person, the said Edmund and his heirs should have all the said manor and lands for ever; and that he would make to him and his heirs, a "suer" sufficient and lawful estate of the said manor and lands; in consideration of which, the said Edmund covenanted that after the said estate and surety he would truly pay to the said John, his heirs and assigns for the said manor, after the rate of twenty years purchase at the yearly value of £14. 6. 8. and after the rate of eight years purchase if it be sold in reversion without charge or incumbrance; and for the lands in Abthorp in the same manner, and on the same terms, to pay £40 when the surety is made, or three months after, and then £30 half yearly till the whole was paid.^d In pursuance of this agreement *William Assheby* son and heir of John Assheby, gent. deceased, in 21 Hen. 8 (1529) sold to the said Edmund Knightley, esq.,^e who in May 30 Hen. 8 (1538) conveyed the manor of Foscoate, with lands in Abthorp to *The King*^f and they remained in the

* Charity commissioners 20th report p. 353 to 358.

^b Esc. 17 Edw. 2. n. 75.

^c Pomefret evidences.

^d Pomefret evidences.

^e Augm.

off. Box A. 17.

* Vide *Fawcley* vol. 1. p. 382.

* Vide *Plempton*, p. 97.

crown till king Charles II. in 1673 granted them, as parcel of the honor of Grafton, in trust for his natural son Henry earl of Easton,^a afterwards created duke of GRAFTON, great great grandfather of George Henry 4th duke of Grafton, K.G. the present lord (1837).

THE VILLAGE contains seven houses.

CHALLOCK consists of about 200 acres of old inclosure, on the southern verge of Abthorp lordship, bordering on Silveston, and Bucknell woods.

MANORIAL HISTORY. Alicia daughter of Jordan de Chaldekale by deed without date gave her messuage and all her lands in Chaldekale to the prior and convent of Luffield;^b and by an agreement without date but which may be placed towards the close of the reign of Henry III, John (de Estlando) rector of Towcester, gave R.(alph de Silveston) prior of Luffield and the convent, peaceable possession of the tithes of the lands which Alexander de Chaldekale and others held in the territory of Chaldekale for ever, on condition that they paid yearly two pounds of wax and half a pound of incense to the church of Towcester.^c In 12 Hen. 4 (1410) there was an award between John (Halse) prior of Luffield and John Lambard of Silveston, respecting common of pasture in an inclosed field called Chaldekalefeld, parcel of the prior's manor of Chaldekale;^d and in 25 Hen. 6 (1446) Edmond Grey lord Hastings, Weyford, and Ruthin, demised to John Pincbek prior of Luffield for his life, his pasture and field called Challock parcel of the manor of Challock, the prior and his brethren binding themselves to keep the obits of his father and mother sir John Grey and dame Constance Marshall.^e The prior and convent of Luffield demised their manor of Challock to

Richard Empson^f for forty years at the yearly rent of £3. 6. 8.;^g and in 5 Hen. 7 (1490) granted him the reversion in fee at the same rent.^h In Feb. 20 Hen. 8 (1528-9) his son Thomas Empson, esq. sold the manor of Challock and all lands "letten to ferme" as parcel of the said manor in the parish of Towcester and Abthorp, to

Robert Monyng of London gent.ⁱ of whom it was purchased the same year by Richard Fernor merchant of the staple at Calais;^j in whose descendants it continued till 1759, when it was included in the sale of the ABTHORP estate by George, second earl of Pomfret, to

Ralph second earl of Verney in Ireland;^k and, as a portion of that property, is now (1837) vested in George Henry fourth duke of Grafton K.G.

GAYTON.

Of this name, are parishes in Cheshire, Lincolnshire, Norfolk, and Staffordshire, and the distinctive syllable enters into the composition of Gaydon, Gaywood, and Gamlingay; but the derivation has baffled the research of etymologists. Gayton contains about 1710 acres; of which about 825 acres belong to sir Joseph Henry Lawley Hawley of Leybourn Grange, Kent, bart. lord of the manor; about 325 acres to William Blake of Danesbury, near Welwyn, Herts, esq.; about 70 acres to the rev. George Butler, D.D. the rector, exclusive of about 93 acres of glebe in right of his church; and about 100 acres to the executors of the late Mr. Alderman Constable of Northampton. The lordship is bounded on the north by Rotherthorpe in Wymerley hundred; east by Milton Malsor, and south east by Blisworth both in Wymerley hundred; south by Tiffeld; west by Pateshull, from which it is divided by *Eascote Brook*, which taking its rise from *Churnwell spring* in this parish joins the *cross-waters* in *Arcean* [Arkesholm] near *Upton-mill*; and north west by Bugbrook in Newbottle Grove hundred.

The soil varies from a grey loam on the hill, to a strong clay in the valley; and is divided between arable and pasture in the proportion of about 765 to 900 acres. The lordship occupies a level ridge of considerable elevation, capped by the great oolite in junction with the fullers earth, both of which are worked for lime, and the repair of the roads. The descent to the north is rapid into an argillaceous valley. Near the Banbury Lane Wharf are rather extensive brick kilns. In the one adjoining the wharf yard to the north, is a diluvial bed, from which my sister obtained in the winter of 1835 some interesting relics of mammalia—the humerus bone, and fragments of the teeth of the mastodon; the tibia of a full grown, and portion of a tooth of a young elephant; parts of the tibia, teeth, and tusks of the hippopotamus; parts of the skull, humerus, tibia, vertebre, and teeth of the ox; tibia and teeth of the elk; and horn and prong, and portion of ribs of the deer.

^a Pat. 21 Jan. 25 Car. 2. p. 8. n. 8. ^b Luffield cartulary fo. 64. ^c Ibid fo. 17. ^d Ibid fo. 42. b. ^e Ibid fo. 38. b. ^f Pomfret evidence. ^g Ibid & Pat. 4 Mar. 5 Hen. 7. in. 15. ^h Abstract of title. ⁱ De. 1. p. 262. ^j So called in Eae. anno 4 Car. 1. n. 27. p. 2. but in the register belonging to the dissolved abbey of *S. James in Northampton* it is called *Franklin* fo. 192. b. & *Edenham* fo. 127. a.

^k Vide EASTON NESTON p. 141.

The Grand Junction Canal traverses the east side of this lordship from north to south; as will the London and Birmingham Railroad which is now (1837) in progress.

MANORIAL HISTORY. HONOR OF CHOKES. *Earl Testi*,* in the Saxon era, was proprietor of an estate in Towcester hundred rated at £6 yearly; and the same valuation was continued after the Norman conquest when it was held by *Sigar de Cioches*. It contained four hides, and four parts of half an hide. The arable land was ten carucates. Of this land one hide was in demesne, and employed three ploughs with five servants and three maidens. This is the amptonshire, though it is occasionally so applied in other counties. Twenty-one villeins, with a priest, and eleven bordars occupied eight carucates. There were eight acres of meadow; and a wood four furlongs long and three furlongs wide.^a No mill is mentioned.

Though its locality is unnamed, there can be no hesitation in assigning the above entry to Gayton, for reasons which will be developed in its subsequent history. *Sigar de Cioches*, or *Chokes*, had only this estate in Northamptonshire, but he had two manors in Hertfordshire,^b three in Gloucestershire,^c and one in Bedfordshire.^d He was, probably, brother of *Gunfrid de Cioches*, or *Chokes*, who has been already noticed under *Billing Parva*, *Weston Favell*, *Flore*, *Thorp by Welton*, *Grimsbury*, *Hulcot* in *Easton Neston*, and *Roade*, and will re-appear at *Rotherthorp*, *Buckby*, *West Haddon*, *Creaton*, *Boughton* by *Kettering*, *Newton*, *Cransley*, *Knuston*, and *Wollaston*.^e He had also a manor in each of the counties of *Bedford*,^f *Buckingham*,^g and *Leicester*,^h and a portion of *Stamford* in *Lincolnshire*.ⁱ

On what occasion, or by what means, his son *Anselm de Chokes* incurred a forfeiture of his possessions is not known; but in 31 Hen. 1 (1130) *Hugh de Leicester* owed 53 marks of silver (£35. 6. 8.) for surplusage which he had from the lands of *Anselm de Cechoes*; and the same year *Anselm* rendered an account of 170 marks of silver (£113. 6. 8.) five war-horses or chargers, and three palfreys for the restoration of his lands in England; £20 of which he had paid into the treasury, and owed £93. 6. 8. the five war horses and three palfreys.^k His son *Robert de Chokes* in 7 Hen. 2 (1160) paid £12 for his knights fees in Northamptonshire.^l The certificate of his barony in 14 Hen. 2 (1167) when the aid was levied on the marriage of the princess *Maud* with *Henry duke of Saxony*, states that *Simon son of Peter* holds half a knights fee; *Saher de Quency* one knights fee and a half; *Stephen de Turs [Thorp]* one knights fee and a half; *Gilbert de Preston* two knights fees and a half; *Richard de Peto* one knights fee; *Roger de Novoburgo [Newburgh]* two knights fees; *Robert son of Lewin* one knights fee; *Gerard Disel* one knights fee; *Henry Pinkney* one knights fee and a half; *Reginald de Musleale* half a knights fee; the wife [widow] of *Walter Disel* one knights fee in dower, which *Hugh de Cransley* holds; and *Robert* himself does the service of one knights fee for his demesne. The barony is further stated to have been held by *Anselm* father of *Robert* in the lifetime and at the death of *King Henry [the first]* by the service of fifteen knights fees^m—the same number as in this return—and the scutage on this occasion being 20s. for each fee, *Robert* accounted for £15.ⁿ A junior branch of the *Chokes* family continued at *CREATON* till the commencement of the fourteenth century, but the baronial line terminated with *Robert*, and the representation descended to *William advocate of Betun*, who in 1 Joh. (1200) had the King's letters of protection, and acquittance from suit to the shire and hundred courts whilst in the King's service,^o and the same year gave—or rather agreed to give—the King £100 for seisin of his lands in England which fell to him by inheritance, except the vill of *One (?)* and for the right of having *Bikebi [Buckby]* and *Wollaveston [Wollaston]* which he claimed.^p In 3 Joh. (1202) the King issued his writ to *Geoffrey Fitz-Peter* apprising him that he had promised in easter to restore to *William advocate of Betun* the land of *Wollaston* which it had been acknowledged in his court *Robert de Chokes* whose heir *William* is, had pledged to the late *King Henry* for 60 marks (£40) remaining of the relief for his land, and that *William* had put in his place—as security or to receive seisin—his brother *Baldwin* earl of *Albemarle* or his son *Daniel*.^q The £100 for seisin was still unpaid,^r and in 7 Joh. (1206) £50 remained due;^s nor was he yet in quiet possession of *Wollaston*, for in 9 Joh. (1207) he claimed that town against *Robert de Novoburgo* or *Newburgh*, by descent from *Robert* son of his father's uncle, *Anselm de Chokes*.^t In 16 Joh. (1214) the sheriffs of the counties of *Nottingham*, *Northampton*, *Kent*, *Gloucester* and *Hertford*, were directed to give full seisin to *Robert de Betun* of all the lands and rents which *William* his father held in demesne at his death;^u and in the following year he had a grant of all the lands of *Richard [Gilbert ?] earl of Clare* and all the fees thereto belonging held by the King's enemies;^v but did not long survive, for in 1 Hen. 3 (1217) his brother *Daniel* advocate of *Betun* on returning to his fealty had seisin of all his father's lands.^w *Robert* advocate of *Betun* had the scutage for a fee in *Grimsbury* quit claimed to him by the King in 8 Hen. 3 (1224);^x but it was included in his scutage for the honor of *Chokes* on the marriage of the King's sister to the emperor of the Romans in 19 Hen. 3 (1235).^y That portion of the *Testa de Nevill*, which from internal evidence may be presumed to have reference to the scutage of *Gascony* in 27 Hen. 3 (1242) exhibits the honor of *Chokes* in possession of

Robert de Gynes, of whom *Robert* son of *Ralph* held two fees in *Wollaston*; *Walter de Cnoston [Knuston]* two parts of a fee in *Knuston*; *Gilbert de Preston* the third part of a fee in *Billing*; *Thomas de Besebrooc* half a fee in *Boughton* (by *Kettering*) and *Newton*; *Thomas de Breante* one fee in *Grimsbury*; *Simon de Thorp* and his parceners half a fee in *Thorp* near *Daventry*; *Richard de Chokes* half a fee in *Creton*; *Geoffrey de Estenson* and his parceners a fee in *Easton Neston* and *West Haddon*; *Simon de Pattishull* one fee in *Rotherthorp*; *Robert de Grimscoate* with *Isabella* his wife, one fee in *Flore*; *John de Hulecot* half a fee in *Hulecot*; *Hugh de Cransley* one fee in *Cransley*; and *Walter Mareschall* one fee in *Buckby* of the honor of *Chokes* held of *Roger de Quency*,^z amounting in the whole to eleven fees.

* *Domesd.* fo. 228. ^b *Ibid* fo. 142. ^c *Ibid* fo. 170. ^d *Ibid* fo. 216. ^e *Ibid* fo. 227. b. ^f *Ibid* fo. 216. ^g *Ibid* fo. 152. b.
^h *Ibid* fo. 235. b. ⁱ *Ibid* fo. 336. b. ^j *Rot. Pip.* North. 31 Hen. 1. ^k *Ibid* 7 Hen. 2. ^l *Lib. Nic.* 1 p. 215. ^m *Rot.*
ⁿ *Pip.* North. 14 Hen. 2. ^o *Rot. Cart.* 1 Joh. m. 25 in dorso. ^p *Rot. Oblats* 1 Joh. ^q *Rot.* Pat. 3 Joh. m. 4. ^r *Rot.*
^s *Cancellari* 3 Joh. ^t *Rot. Pip.* North. 7 Joh. ^u *Hutton MSS.* ^v *Pleac.* 9 Joh. ^w *Rot. Claus.* 11 Joh. m. 2. ^x *Ibid* 17.
^y *Joh.* m. 3. ^z *Ibid* 1 Hen. 3. m. 4. m. 8. & m. 15. p. 2. ^{aa} *Rot. Claus.* 8 Hen. 3. m. 18. ^{bb} *Test. Nev.* fo. 134. ^{cc} *Ibid* fo. 112.

* *vide Potterspury* p. 215.

From Dugdale's Baronage with additions and corrections from public records.

Robert de Gynes, Ghisnes, or Guisnes, was grandson of Baldwin earl of Ghisnes to whom Ernulf de Hardres gave Tolleshunt in Essex with his daughter in marriage, brother of the second earl Baldwin, and uncle of Earl Ernulf.^a In 81 Hen. 3 (1247) an inquisition was taken to inquire what knights fees Robert advocate of Betun held on the day when he gave *Gayton* to Robert de Gynes, and whether he had the service of two fées in Wollaston. Gynes produced the king's confirmation of the feoffment of Gayton; and the list of fées presented by the jury was a counterpart of the king's confirmation of the Testa de Nevill, excepting the omission of the fee in Buckley and half fee in Hulcott return of the honor of Cloukes in the Testa de Nevill, excepting the omission of the fee in Wollaston it was found that there was a few variations in the names of the tenants or mesne lords: as to the two fées in Bucky it was found that they were held of the king in capite till Robert the advocate recovered them in the king's court from Robert son of Ralph; that Gynes took suitage of them in the suitage of Gascony, by the sheriff of the county by the king's writ, and the tenant paid him 100^{s.} yearly, but neither he nor any other of the tenants did homage to him for any of the fées.^b

From Dugdale's Baronage with additions and corrections from public records.

In 33 Hen. 3 (1249) *Ingelram de Fienes* or *Fiennes* purchased of Robert de Ghineses for 700 marks (£466, 13. 4.) the manor and advowson of Gayton, together with all his knights fees and lands in England, which formerly belonged to the earl of Ghineses, or Robert de Betun advocate of Arras, with the homage and services of the knights and free tenants who held of them.⁵ The sale was confirmed in 36 Hen. 3 (1252) by the king, who commanded all the feodatories to transfer their homage from Robert to Ingelram;⁶ and the same year an inquisition was taken of the amount of sheriffs' aid, castle guard, and other feudal services due from Gayton and the several members of the honor of Chokes.⁷ In 21 Edw. 1 (1293) *William de Fyens* lord of the honor of Chokes, substantiated his right to the feudal services of Sir Philip Edw. 1 (1293) *William de Fyens* lord of the honor of Chokes, substantiated his right to the feudal services of Sir Philip Montgomery for Thorp near Darenty.⁸ *John de Fienes* having been attained for adherence to the French king, the fees of the honor of Chokes, in whatsoever county they might be, were (*int. al.*) in 14 Edw. 3 (1339) granted in fee to

FIENTLES, FIENNES, FENYS, OR FENES.

From Dugdale's Baronage, with additions and corrections from public records.

^a Esc. 31 Hen. 3, n. 44. ^b Rot. Cart. 33 Hen. 3, m. 4. ^c Cardigan MSS, G. 3, p. 621 "Rot. Claus. 36 Hen. 3, m. 12." ^d Esc. 36 Hen. 3, n. 64. ^e Rot. Parl. 1 p. 95. ^f Rot. Pat. 14 Edw. 3, p. 2, m. 6. ^g Rot. Cart. 20 Edw. 3, n. 17.

William de Fienes or Fienes, of Mar- tock co. Somerset, Wendover co. Bucks, & lord of honor of Chokes, ob. 30 Edw. 1 (1302) <i>Esc. 30 Edw. 1. n. 33.</i>	Blanch de Brienne lady of Compiègne, Sec. in Maine.	Reginald de Pimble or Pimmes 54 Hen. 3 (1270).	Giles de Fien- les or Fienes, living 27 Edw. 1 (1299).	Robert de Ri- chens, Pim- les or Fienes, of Old Court in Henchlin in Norm. France. Fienes, Viscount Say & Sele ext. 1781. TWISTLETON, BAYON SAY & SELE.	Mand ob. . . . w. of Humphrey de Bohun earl of Hereford & Essex, ob. Dec. 1298 (27 Edw. 1).
John de Fienes or Fienes, at 24, <i>Esc. 30 Edw. 1 (1302)</i> Edw. 1, lord of the honor of Chokes, 2 Edw. 3 (1328), ob. 5 Edw. 3 (1331) <i>Esc. 5 Edw. 3. p. 2. n. 29.</i>	Joan d. & h. of Jordan le Forester of co. Berks. oc. 22 Edw. 1 (1294) ob. 12 Edw. 3 (1338).	Robert de Fienes or Fienes of Roebuck in France & of Wendover co. Bucks 5 Edw. 2 (1311) & 11 Edw. 3 (1337), attained, and his lands granted to Molins 14 Edw. 3 (1340).	Robert de Fienes or Fienes of Roebuck in France & of Wendover co. Bucks 5 Edw. 2 (1311) & 11 Edw. 3 (1337), attained, and his lands granted to Molins 14 Edw. 3 (1340).	vide Ayrton vol. 1. p. 544.	Mary, ob. . . . w. of Ed. de Bohun earl of Hereford & Essex, ob. Dec. 1298 (27 Edw. 1).
John de Fienes or Fienes of Martock co. Somerset & lord of honor of Chokes, attainted, and the honor of Chokes (ad. <i>inf.</i>) granted to Molins 14 Edw. 3 (1340).	Robert de Fienes or Fienes, high constable of France, ob. s. p.	Isabella d. of Guy de Dampiere, earl of Flanders.	Joan sist. & h. w. of John de Chastillon.		

This honor reverted again to the crown; and in 26 Hen. 6 (1448) an annual rent of £14. 4s. payable to the castleward of Northampton from the honor of Chokes, and all the knights fees and services belonging to the honor of Chokes were included in a grant to Richard Wideville lord Rivers,* afterwards earl Rivers.*

MANOR. Within a century of the Norman conquest Gayton was subinfeudated to the *advocate of Betun*, whose descendants, it has been seen, eventually succeeded to the paramourney and the honor of Chokes. In 9 Hen. 2 (1162) the advocate of Betun rendered an account of 20^s and in 13 Hen. 2 (1166)^c of one mark for Gayton; and in the hidarium at a later period of that reign, it was certified that Gayton contained four hides in tenure of the advocate of Betun.^d The intervening history of the manor down to its alienation to *Ingletram de Fienes* in 33 Hen. 3 (1249) has been incorporated in the descent of the honor of Chokes. Fienes retained the honor, but disposed of the manor and advowson, which were purchased in 54 Hen. 3 (1270) by

Michael son of Simon de Houghton of Northampton,* who by the name of *Michael de Northampton* had a grant of free warren in all his demesne lands of Gayton,^f which was confirmed to John de Northampton in the following year.^g His sons dying without issue, he was succeeded by his daughter *Juliana*, who transferred this manor in marriage to a family who had adopted the local surname.

Her son, *sir Philip de Gayton*, in 25 Edw. 1 (1297) was one of the knights returned from this county as holding lands or rents of the yearly value of £20 or upwards, and as such summoned under the general writ to perform military service in person with horse and arms beyond the seas,^h and in 28 Edw. 1 (1300) a writ was addressed to the sheriff of this county, reciting that Philip de Gayton elected one of the representatives for the county of Northampton, had also been elected for the county of Warwick, and assigned for the better observance of Magna Carta and the Carta de Foresta to hear and determine all transgressions in the said counties which had been committed contrary to the tenor of the charters—the sheriff was therefore commanded to cause another person to be elected in the place of the said Philip, and to return his name to the king.ⁱ He died in Jan. 9 Edw. 2 (1315-6) leaving a son *Theobald de Gayton* who survived him only a few days, and two daughters, who thus became co-heiresses, *Juliana* wife of Sir Thomas Murdak aged twenty-six years, and *Scolastica* wife of sir Godfrey de Meaux or Melsa aged twenty-four years.^k In 16 Edw. 2 (1223) an inquisition was taken of the fees of the late Theobald de Gayton, when it was found that John de Pateshull held of him one fee in Middleton Malsor and Collingtree; William de Watford the fourth of a fee, and John son of Simon de Creton the eighth of a fee in Creton by homage and suit to the court of Gayton every three weeks; and that he himself held the advowsons of Gayton and Creton.^l

In 9 Edw. 2 (1316) the king took fealty of Scolastica de Meaux for a moiety of the manor of Gayton, worth £20. 12. 6. yearly, and certain lands and tenements in Creton, Middleton (Malsor), Braunsfield [Brayfield?], and Courtenhall,^m and the same year Scolastica, and Thomas de Murdak—in right of his wife—were certified to be lords of Gayton.ⁿ Murdak died before the expiration of the year;^o and it was subsequently discovered that he had been murdered by his wife, at the instigation of sir John Vaux.^p On conviction, she was burnt, and by virtue of an ancient royal prerogative which gave the king the profits, for a year and a day, of all lands and tenements of persons attainted of petit treason or felony, whosoever might be the mediate lord, William de Braybrook, sub-eschator to the king, took possession of her share of the manor of Gayton, held of John de Fienes;^q and Thurstan de Hamslope, escheator of the county of Northampton, accounted for the profits, together with corn at the grange, fish, and other chattels of the said Juliana to the value of 10 marks (£6. 13. 4).^r On the determination of this term, her estate here, escheated to the paramount lord John de Fienes, or Fenes, who demised this moiety of the manor to Scolastica de Meaux and John her son for life; and in 2 Edw. 3 (1328) settled the advowson, with the reversion of the moiety, on William Trussell in fee.^s After the attainder of Fienes the advowson and this moiety of the manor, were included in both grants to sir John Molins*—probably in ignorance of the above prior settlements which, it is at least certain, were not invalidated by them.

In 3 Edw. 3 (1329) Alicia, widow of John de Bureote claimed certain premises in Gayton against sir William Lovell and Margery his wife, who pleaded that they held them as the dower of Margery from Theobald de Gayton her first husband, and called Scolastica de Meaux to warrant; but she refused, alleging that she and her sister Juliana were co-heiresses of their brother, and from Juliana the right of the property descended to her son and heir John Murdak then living, on whom they had not called. Alice recovered seisin, and Scolastica was quit of the warranty.^t In 4 Edw. 3 (1330) Scolastica had a confirmatory grant of free warren;^u and in 7 Edw. 3 (1333) Adam son of Simon de Houghton

* Rot. Pat. 26 Hen. 6. p. 2. n. 4. ^b Rot. Pip. North. 9 Hen. 2. ^c Ibid 13 Hen. 2. ^d Cotton MSS. Vesp. E. xlii. fo. 96. ^e Rot. Cart. 54 Hen. 3. m. 13. & Rot. Fin. 54 Hen. 3. ^f Hutton MSS. "Cart. Antiq. L. 22." ^g Rot. Cart. 35 Hen. 3. m. 3. ^h Cardigan MSS. M. p. 74. ⁱ Claus. 28 Edw. 1. m. 7. d. ^j Esc. 9 Edw. 2. n. 59. ^k Esc. 16 Edw. 2. n. 32. ^l Rot. Orig. 9 Edw. 2. r. 6. ^m Cardigan MSS. Mon. VIII. p. 10. ⁿ Esc. 9 Edw. 2. n. 10. ^o Esc. 15 Edw. 2. n. 24 & 4 Edw. 3. n. 57. ^p Inq. ad q. d. 15 Edw. 2. n. 2. ^q Inham MSS. No. 37. p. 228. "Plac. Cor. 3 Edw. 3." ^r Ibid p. 229. ^s Esc. 28 Edw. 3. n. 50. ^t Esc. 22 Edw. 3. p. 2. n. 26. ^u Inham MSS. No. 37 p. 110 b. "Plac. 3 Edw. 3." ^v Rot. Cart. 4 Edw. 3. n. 55. ^w Vide Grafton Regis. p. 166. ^x Vide p. 273.

de Northampton—her great great paternal uncle—released to her all his right in the manor of Gayton.⁸ Scolastica died 28 Edw. 3 (1354) and was succeeded by her son and heir sir John de Meaux,⁹ to whom, having done homage to the king, and given security for his relief, the escheator of the county was commanded to give full seisin of a moiety of the manor of Gayton, and also to deliver to him the other moiety.⁶ In 31 Edw. 3 (1357) he had a licence to settle the advowson of Creton and a moiety of the manor of Gayton on himself and Maud his wife in fee tail, remainder to Theobald Trussell in fee.⁴ His will is introduced in the interesting volume "Testamenta Eboracensia, or Wills registered at York", recently published by the Surtees Society. It is dated 1 June 1377 (51 Edw. 3) and designating himself sir John de Meux of Bewyk in Holderness, he desires to be buried in the aisle of the Blessed Mary in the church of St. Bartholomew in Aldeburgh, and wills that his body shall be buried in the habit of the Minor Brothers, because he was a brother of that order, and covered with black cloth on the day of his sepulture, and four large torches burning round his corpse; to William Attesthall of Aldeburgh he bequeaths 20 marks (£13. 6. 8.) and all his rents in Hedon; to sir John de Hedon his better zone of gold; to the prior and convent of Bridlington a "paxbrede" called a relie; to Richard Hudson his chamberlain 10 marks (£6. 13. 4.) and one of his entire beds, in which he may happen to die, and a horse with saddle, which at that time shall carry his wallet, together with his wallet; to Alice Chapman of Aldeburgh 10 marks (£6. 13. 4d.) two cows, and an entire bed with testers, housings or furniture [howez] tapestry [tapetis] mattress [matric] coverlid or [canevac] sheets [lintheaminibus] with all suitable pernicencies sufficient for a knight; Maud his wife; sir Thomas de Meaux, and Robert Lorimer of Seton executors.⁶ When he died is not known, but his grant of the manor of Willardeby to the monks of Hantemprise, was confirmed by Anthony de Spanneby, as his cousin and heir in 1379.⁷

GAYTON OF GAYTON, AND COHEIRS.

From Public Records and other Authorities.

Arms. GAYTON. Argent, crusilly and three fleurs de lis Azure.

MEUX. Azure six griffins Or.

MURDAK. Or fretty Sable.

Simon de Houghton temp. Hen. 3rd.

Michael de Northampton s. of Simon de Houghton purchased Gayton ¹ manor and advowson 54 Hen. 3 (1273).	Adam de Houghton s. of Simon de Houghton quit claimed to Scolastica de Meaux 7 Edw. 3 (1356).
John de Northampton living 55 Hen. 3 (1271) ob. s. p.	Juliana sist. & heiress ² of Philip de Gayton of Gayton living 6 Edw. 3 (1312).
Sir Philip de Gayton of Gayton; & of Grove & Shireway co. Warw. M.P. for co. Warwick 26 & 28 Edw. 1. sheriff co. Scutellaria 4. of Warwick & Leicester 29 Edw. 1. ob. at Grove 20 Jan. 9 Edw. 2 (1315.6) Rec. 9 Edw. 2. n. 52.	Juliana sist. & heiress ² of Philip de Gayton of Gayton living 6 Edw. 3 (1312).
Sir Theobald de Gayton; Margaret d. of 2. h. sir Wil. Juliana sist. & heiress ² of Thomas Murdak of Edg. Scolastica sist. & heiress ² of Geoffrey de Meaux of Gayton ob. s. p. 25 living 3 Liam Lovell Rec. 9 Edw. 2. burnt for cotte, ob. 9 Edw. 2. (1315.6) at. 24 Rec. 9 Edw. 2. oc. mar. 9 Edw. 2. Jan. 9 Edw. 2 (1315.6) Edw. 3 (1329). oc. 3 Edw. 3 murder of her husband. A. Rec. 9 Edw. 2. n. 10. ob. 28 Edw. 3 (1354) (1315.6) dead 3 Rec. 9 Edw. 2 n. 52. vide Encyclopaedia vol. 1. p. 452. Rec. 28 Edw. 3. n. 50. Edw. 3 (1329).	

Sir John de Meaux of Gayton, & of Bewyk in Holderness co. York, will dat. 1 Jun. = Maud d. of oc. mar. 31 Edw. 3 (1357)
1377 (51 Edw. 3) dead s. p. 1379 (3 Ric. 2).

Sir William Trussell of FLORE,* the grantee of the advowson of Gayton, and the reversion of the Murdak moiety of the manor from John de Fienes,[†] settled them in 20 Edw. 3 (1346) on his son sir Theobald Trussell,[‡] who, on the reversionary grant of the other moiety from sir John de Meaux in 31 Edw. 3 (1357) gave 10 marks (£6. 13. 4.) for licence to acquire the reversion of certain lands and tenements in Great Creton and Gayton.[§] On the decease of sir John de Meaux the Trussells came into full possession of the entire manor. Sir John Trussell, son of sir Theobald, in 22 Ric. 2 (1396) enfeoffed Warine Lucien and others in this manor and advowson, who the same year re-conveyed them to him and Margaret his wife in fee[¶] and in 6 Hen. 4 (1404.5) his sister Agnes Trussell, on whom their father had settled Harpole[¶] and probably a portion of Gayton, remitted all her right to him and his wife.[¶] Margaret survived her husband, and in her widowhood, conveyed this manor and advowson to Edmund Dyve and others, who settled them on her for life, remainder to William lord Zouch and other feoffees to the use of James Suetenham in fee[¶] to whom a fine was levied of them in 24 Hen. 6 (1445).[¶]

Robert Tanfield esq. died in 21 Edw. 4 (1481) seized of the manors of Harpole and Gayton with lands in Northampton, Courtenhall, Milton, Collingtree, Blisworth, Flore, and Creton, and the advowsons of Harpole, Gayton, and Creton.[§] His descendants acquired the manors of Ravensthorpe, and Ashley in this county[¶] with various manors in the counties of Bedford, Huntingdon, Devon, and Somerset;[¶] most, if not all of which, continued vested in the family down to sir Francis Tanfield, who, in 5 Jac. (1607) sold the manor and advowson of Gayton to sir William Samwell,[¶] A junior branch of the Tanfields retained an estate in Gayton.

TANFIELD OF GAYTON, HARPOLE, &c.

From heraldic visitations, and public records, with additions from the parish registers of Harpole,* Gayton,† All Saints Northampton,‡ and other authorities.

Arms. Argent, two chevrons between three martlets sable. Crest. A woman's head couped at the shoulders Proper, crined Or, wreathed round the temples with roses Argent and Sable.

Rev. Thomas Tanfield of Harpole 30 Hen. 6 (1452) rector of Harpole to 1474, of Caster 1466 to 1474, =
d. of Gayton 1471 to 1472, will dat. 2 Jan. 1474.5. (14 Edw. 4).

1. w. Robert Tanfield of Gayton & Har = 2. w. d. of 3. w. Elizabeth d. of John Hakeworth = 1. h. Robert Mordant of Turvey co. Beds. esq. M.P.
d. of sole esq. ob. Nov. 21 Edw. 4 Louney of H. esq. living 9 Edw. 4 (1465). A. for co. Bedford's Hen. 3. dead July 37 Hen. 6 (1469).
Lovell. (1481) Rec. 21 Edw. 4. n. 39. EARL OF PETERBOROUGH ext. Vide DRAUGHTON HOUSE.

* Rot. Claus. 7 Edw. 3. p. 1. m. 12. † Rec. 28 Edw. 3. n. 50. ‡ Rot. Orig. 28 Edw. 3. n. 6. § Rec. (Inq. ant.) d. 131 Edw. 3. p. 2. n. 24. ¶ Testamenta Eboracensia, Part 1. p. 100. † Ibid p. 100. n. § Rec. 22 Edw. 3. p. 2. n. 26. ¶ Rot. Orig. 31 Edw. 3. gross fines. r. 26. † Rec. 21 Hen. 6. n. 43. ‡ Rot. Fin. 29 Edw. 3. § Rec. 18 Hen. 6. n. 71 & 21 Hen. 6. n. 43. ¶ Hutton MSS. "Fin. Mich. 24 Hen. 6." † Rec. 21 Edw. 4. n. 39. ‡ Rec. 21 Hen. 8. n. 112. § Rec. 29 Edw. 3. n. 46. ¶ Samwell evidence & Pat. 1 Sep. 5 Jac. p. 4. † Vide vol. 1. p. 154. ‡ Vide p. 274.

John Darker *esq.*, an eminent London merchant, purchased a portion of the Kent estate, and adopted Gayton for his residence. He represented the borough of Leicester in three parliaments, and was one of the most active and useful members on all questions and committees connected with trade and commerce. There is an engraved portrait of him in Thorbys's *Leicestershire*, from a portrait in the town hall, Leicester. He died in Feb. 1784, possessed of the manors of Litchborough^a and Milton Malsor, under one of which a strict adherence to system would have placed the subjoined pedigree.

DARKER, NASH, AND BLAKE OF GAYTON, 1837.

From information of the family, and other authorities.

Arms. DARKER. Argent on three mounts two and one Vert, as many hop vines with their poles Proper. *Crest.* A dexter armed arm, embowed, in the hands a bunch of hop vines, all Proper. (Granted to John Darker, *esq.* of London 12 Sept. 1765). *NASH.* Azure, on a chevron between three silenus' heads erased Argent, a pellet between four cross crosslets Sable. *Crest.* An arm crested at the elbow, vested Azure, cuffed Argent, holding in the hand Proper, an acorn branch Vert, fructed Proper. (Borne by William Nash, *esq.* lord mayor of London 1772). *BLAKE.* Argent, a chevron between three gules salient. *Crest.* On a chapeau Gules turned up Ermine a martlet Argent.

John Darker of Gayton *esq.* born at Staughton co. Leic. M.P. for Leicester 1760 to 1768 & 1774 to 1784. Treasurer of St. Bartholomew's hospital London, F.R. & A.S. ob. in London 8 Feb. 1784 at 62, bur. in St. Bartholomew the less ch. London. *Mary* d. of John Parker of Ratford co. Notts. *esq.* 1766 to 1768 & 1774 to 1784. ob. at Kensington co. Middx. 8 Mar. 1800 at 73 bur. at St. Bartholomew the less ch. London.

1. Mary born 30 Aug 1750 ob. p. 23 Dec. 1775, bur. at St. Bar- tholomew don 16 Feb. 1775, ob. the less ch. London. 16 Oct. 1782.	1. h. Joseph Nash Elizabeth 2d = 2h. Edward Loveden Love- don of Basco park co. & only sur- viving dan. & heiress, ob. at Basco park co. Berks 1788.	1. w. Margaret d. Sarah Jo. = Sir George Augustus = 2. w. Julia Annabella d. & hanna St. William Shuckburgh of h. of James Evelyn of Becks <i>esq.</i> L.L.D. F.R. & A.S. M.P. for Abingdon, Pryest Gogerd. 3 July 23 Aug 1761, took the dan co. Carlglen 1782 ob. name of <i>Devshire</i> 1764, ob. 30 Jan. v.p. & s.p. M.P. for co. Warw 1760 set 72; 3 w. . . . d. of at Bristol M.P. for co. A.S. ob. 1784. 10 Apr. p. m. at St. 11 Aug 1804 - 1795 ob. 14 Sept. 1797	1. w. Margaret d. Sarah Jo. = Sir George Augustus = 2. w. Julia Annabella d. & hanna St. William Shuckburgh of h. of James Evelyn of Becks <i>esq.</i> L.L.D. F.R. & A.S. M.P. for Abingdon, Pryest Gogerd. 3 July 23 Aug 1761, took the dan co. Carlglen 1782 ob. name of <i>Devshire</i> 1764, ob. 30 Jan. v.p. & s.p. M.P. for co. Warw 1760 set 72; 3 w. . . . d. of at Bristol M.P. for co. A.S. ob. 1784. 10 Apr. p. m. at St. 11 Aug 1804 - 1795 ob. 14 Sept. 1797
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Mary dau. & heiress, mar. at Marylebone ch. co. Middx. 25 July 1797, living 1837. = William Blake of Dancesbury near Wodeyn co. Herts. *esq.* F.R.S. living 1837.

HOLT MANOR. In 4 Edw. 1 (1275) Walter de Gayton released to John de Gayton all his lands, tenements and woods in Gayton with warranty^a and in 29 Edw. 1 (1301) sir John de Gayton was summoned from the county of Northampton to perform military service against the Scots.^b This sir John de Gayton was contemporary with sir Philip de Gayton lord of the principal manor, but though both bore the local surname and might be derived from one common ancestor, they were of distinct houses, as is evident from their armorial bearings. In an ancient roll of arms in the British Museum, which has been ably edited by sir Harris Nicolas,^c and proved by internal evidence to have been "compiled between the 2d and 7th years of the reign of Edward the Second 1308-1314," the arms of all the knights of England are arranged under their respective counties, and amongst the Northamptonshire knights appear "Sir Johan de Geytone" with Argent, a fess between six fleur de lis Gules, and "Sire Felip de Geytone" with Argent, crussily, and three fleur de lis Azure. Detached notices only of this family can be retrieved. In 3 Edw. 3 (1329) sir Thomas de Gayton occurs as one of the subscribing witnesses to a release of the manor of Farthington.^d In 17 Edw. 3 (1343) Andrina, widow of sir Thomas de Gayton, in her pure widowhood, remised and released to lady Scolastica de Meaux all her right and claim in the person and chattels of Henry Balle, formerly one of the natives of the said sir Thomas^e and two years afterwards granted to Scolastica for her life, 9y. yearly out of certain lands in Gayton, in part of 12y. yearly which she owed to Scolastica for lands and tenements held of her.^f

The lands belonging to this second family of Gayton, I apprehend, formed the manor in Gayton, which was forfeited (*int. al.*) by the attainder of sir John Holt in 11 Ric. 2, but restored to his son John Holt in 14 Ric. 2 (1390)^g, and of which a fine was levied in 20 Ric. 2 (1396) to *Hugh Holt*^h and which continued vested in the Holts of BRAMPTON BY DINGLEY to the extinction of the male line in the reign of Henry VI.

In 17 Hen. 6 (1438) William Aldewyncele and his co-feeoffees delivered to William Tresham, Thomas Tresham, and others (*int. al.*) their manor of Gayton, late belonging to Richard Holt clerk deceasedⁱ and in May 30 Hen. 6 (1452) *Simon Norwich*, *esq.* entered into a bond with *Thomas Tresham*, *esq.* to abide the arbitration of Thomas Wake, *esq.* and his co-arbitrators, chosen by them to decide on the right and title to all the lands and tenements of the late Richard Holt in Brampton by Dingley, Carlton, Desborough, Rowell, Rushton, Cotterstock, Gayton, Tansor, Faxton, Kilmarsch, and Islip.^k The decision appears to have been against Tresham; for in August following it was found by inquisition, that Richard Holt died in 7 Hen. 6 (1428) seized (*int. al.*) of Gayton manor called Holt's manor, and that *Simon Norwich* was his cousin and heir, viz. son of Simon, son of Margaret, sister of John Holt, father of the said Richard.^l By the office taken on the death of *John Norwich*, *esq.* son of Simon, in 19 Hen. 7 (1504) the manor of Gayton was returned to be held of the prior of the hospital of St. John of Jerusalem, by fealty and 4y. 2s. yearly, and worth £7. 8. yearly^m but by a second and amended inquisition in 4 Hen. 8 (1512), the manor was found to be held of the king by service unknown and worth £6 yearly; and two messages, of the hospital, worth 40y. yearly.ⁿ *John Norwich*, *esq.* grandson of John, died seized of this manor in 4 & 5 Ph. & Mar. (1557) and was succeeded by his son and heir *Simon Norwich*, *esq.*^o who sold his Woodford, and, most probably, his *Gayton* estate.

PATESHULL LANDS. In 54 Hen. 3 (1270) the sheriff of the county was commanded to appear before Gilbert de Preston, to acknowledge an assise of *mort d'ancestor* taken before Richard de Hemmington at Wansford, between John son of William de Aston plaintiff, and Simon de Pateshull defendant, concerning two parts of two virgates and a half of land in Gayton, and to certify and set forth to Gilbert certain doubts which had arisen upon the assise. John did not land in Gayton, and to certify and set forth to Gilbert certain doubts which had arisen upon the assise. John did not come, and was re-summoned; therefore certificate was taken against him by default. And it being demanded of Simon on what articles he claimed that the assise should be examined, he says, that William de Aston, father of John, held the said tenements of him by knights service, rendering to him a pound of cinnamon, wherefore he claims the custody of the said tenements. And the twelve jurors came, and being asked what they said before Richard de Hemmington, they say, that William on whose death the assise was arraigned, died seized of the said tenements as of fee, and that the said

^a Flacit Mich. 4 Edw. 1 r. 12. ^b Rot. Claus. 29 Edw. 1 m. 13 & 12 d. ^c Cotton MSS. Caligula A. xvij. ^d A Roll of Arms? See 8th, 1829. ^e Shuckburgh evidence. ^f Hutton died. ^g Hist. Cart. 30 P. 51. ^h Rot. Pat. 14 Ric. 2 p. 1 m. 35. ⁱ Hutton MSS. "Fin. 20 Ric. 2." ^j Cart. Antiq. in possession of T. P. Maunsell *esq.* M.P. ^k 1363. ^l Esc. 39 Hen. 6 n. 13. ^m Esc. 20 Hen. 7 n. 34. ⁿ Esc. 4 Hen. 8 n. 25. ^o Esc. 4 & 5 Ph. & Mar. p. 1 n. 115.

John was his heir. And being further asked, if the said land was geldable like the other land of Gayton, they say that it gives sheriffs aid twice in the year; that it owes suit to the court of the said Simon from three weeks to three weeks, and also to the hundred court from three weeks to three weeks; and that it ought to be amerced before the justices for murder and other transgressions whenever Gayton is amerced. And they say, that whenever it shall happen that the wall of Northampton Park [Moulton Park]* or any part of the wall shall fall, that the said land shall pay its portion towards rebuilding it the same as Gayton. And they also say, that Ralph de Aston, grandfather of the said John, was enfeoffed of the said land by the said Simon for his homage and service, rendering to him and his heirs a pound of cinnamon yearly, and doing foreign service for the said land; that William, father of the said John, after the death of his father gave Simon half a mark for his relief, and half a mark in aid of making his eldest son a knight; and that the land owes suit from three weeks to three weeks at Pateshull, "de una baronia usq. in alia baroniam."⁸ The repair of Northampton park wall, formed part of the feudal service due from the honor of Chokes, and four perches were assigned to Gayton as its quota.⁹ These lands in Gayton were included in the manor of Pateshull on the death of sir William Pateshull in 33 Edw. 3 (1364);¹⁰ and occur in the inquisition of John Englefield, esq. one of his representatives, as late as 9 Eliz. (1567).¹¹

NORTHAMPTON HOSPITAL LANDS. In 8 Hen. 3 (1224) Brother Thomas, master of St. John's hospital in Northampton, levied a fine to Henry de Gayton of two virgates of land in Gayton.¹²

This estate is still held under the hospital, and consists of three tenements and 37 acres of land. William Blake, esq. is the present lessee.

ST. JAMES'S ABBEY LANDS. Henry de Gayton, son of Henry de Gayton, by an undated deed gave Litervill Croft and sixteen acres of land in Gayton to the abbey of St. James near Northampton.¹³ His "nepos" and heir Hugh de Burcote confirmed the grant;¹⁴ and in 27 Edw. 1 (1298) John, son of Henry de Gayton, acquitted the abbot from suit to the hundred court of Towcester for a messuage and half a virgate of land in Gayton, of the gift of Henry son of Henry de Gayton.¹⁵

Gayton was annexed to the honor of Grafton on its erection in 33 Hen. 8 (1541)¹⁶ and is a member of the court held at Blisworth.

PARK. In 43 Hen. 3 (1258) Ingelram de Fiennes had a grant of licence to inclose his wood of Gayton which was within the metes of Salcey forest, with a good strong ditch and hay, so as to prevent the royal beasts of chase from entering, and convert it into a park;¹⁷ and in 5 Hen. 4 (1403) John Trussell had licence to make a park of three hundred acres of meadow, pasture, and wood in Gayton.¹⁸ The park has been long since disparked and divided into fields, but about twenty acres of wood remain.

THE MANOR HOUSE stood at the northern entrance of the village, and though reduced to a farm house, retains portions, deserving preservation, of the peculiar style of domestic architecture prevalent in the reigns of Elizabeth and James the first.



* *Placit.* 54 Hen. 3 r. 8 d. ⁸ *Esc.* 36 Hen. 3 n. 64. ⁹ *Esc.* 33 Edw. 3 n. 40. ¹⁰ *Esc.* 9 Eliz. n. 52. ¹¹ *Hutton MSS.*, "Fin. 8 Hen. 3."
¹² *Br. MSS.*, E. p. 408. ¹³ *Rot. Cart.* 43 Hen. 3, m. 5 & *Hutton MSS.*, "Cart. Antiq. L.L. 28." ¹⁴ *Rot. Cart.* 3 Hen. 4 n. 4.
¹⁵ *Vide* vol. 1 p. 32. ¹⁶ *Vide* p. 132.

The seat of the late John Darker, esq. M.P., probably the former residence of the Wheelowes or the Lockwoods, was near the centre of the village, and on its site a handsome mansion has been erected by the rev. Dr. Butler.

THE VILLAGE is about five miles south-west of Northampton, and commands a wide-spreading view over a richly cultivated district. A row of lofty elms, of which a few only remain, served in the olden time as a conspicuous landmark to the surrounding country. In the time of Bridges, Gayton was 'a village of two and forty houses, with one inn-ship named the *Woodhouse*.' By the census of 1801, it contained 36 houses and 267 inhabitants; by that of 1811, 69 houses and 335 inhabitants; by that of 1821, 76 houses and 389 inhabitants; and by that of 1831, 85 houses and 461 inhabitants. The annual quota of land tax for this parish is £166. 18. 9½; at 4s. in the £. The estimated value of real property as assessed to the property tax of 10 *per cent.* for the year ending April 1815, amounted to £2543. The poor's rates for the year ending Easter 1832 raised £170. 12. 2. at 2s. 1d. in the £. The wake follows the nativity of the Virgin Mary.

THE ADVOWSON continued appendant to the principal manor till Aug. 1765 when it was sold by James Hawley esq. M.D. for £1400 to the master and fellows of Sidney Sussex college, Cambridge.*

THE RECTORY is in the deanry of Brackley. Robert de Betun, advocate of Arras, granted to the abbess and nuns of de Pratis or Delapre near Northampton, an annual pension of one mark out of the church of Gayton² and in the taxations of 1254 (38 Hen. 3)³ and of 1291 (20 Edw. 1)⁴ the rectory was valued at 16 marks (£10. 13. 4) deducting this pension.

In the ecclesiastical survey of 1535 (26 Hen. 8) it was rated at £16. 9. 0. *per ann.* deducting the above pension, and 10s. 7d. for synodals and procurations to the archdeacon of Northampton.⁵ The parliamentary commissioners in 1655 certified it to be a parsonage presentative worth £140 *per ann.*; that sir Richard Samwell, knight, or Richard Samwell, esq. his son and heir was patron; and that Mr. Edmund Morgan the incumbent, received the profit and discharged the cure.⁶ The rectory now consists of 93 acres of glebe land, and the rectorial tithes of the whole parish.

The rectory house stands south of the church yard, and though nearly rebuilt by the late rector, has been greatly enlarged and essentially improved by the present incumbent.

RECTORS. *Ralph*, rector [parsona] of Gayton, occurs in an undated grant of land in Gayton to St. James's Abbey.⁷

William de Albiniaco nephew [nepos] of sir Philip de Albiniaco or Albini, by the king, the lands of the advocate of Betun being in his hands, 1234.

Henry de Cambrey, subdeacon, by sir Baldwin [Robert?] de Betun, 1240.

Michael de Northampton, the patron unknown, 1269. He has been already noticed under Everdon.

Philip de Northampton, subdeacon, by Michael de Northampton, feoffee of the church of Gayton from sir Ingelram de Fenes, 9 Mar. 1274. Michael de Northampton the last incumbent and present patron is, it is presumed the individual of the same name who purchased the manor and advowson in 1270; and this Philip, probably his son, as Philip de Northampton, heir of Michael, presented

Richard de Medeburn, chaplain, 6 Apr. 1284.

William de Gayton, acolyte, by sir Philip de Gayton, 20 Oct. 1304.

Simon de Veer, clerk, by sir William Trussell of Flore, 7 Nov. 1342.

John de Haldenby, 'in prima tonsurâ clericali constitutus,' by Catherine widow of sir Theobald Trussell, 28 Apr. 1369.

John son of John Curteys of Jakesle [Xaxley] priest, 3 July, 1370.

William Burgeys, chaplain, 18 July, 1373.

William Pampas, by sir Warine Lucyen and others enfeoffed by sir John Trussell, 21 Nov. 1396.

Hugh Parker, chaplain, by sir John Trussell, 21 Nov. 1401.

John Ande, priest, 16 Feb. 1408. He was vicar of Boseate 1392 to 1403, rector of Blatherwick 1403, and vicar of Wollaston 1418.

John Varney, priest, 7 Apr. 1421. He occurs under Moulton as John Verney.

Sir Richard Feirman.

Mast. Thomas Tanfield, S.T.P. by Robert Tanfield, esq. and William Witham, clerk, 28 July 1471. He was father of the patron, who had previously given him the rectory of Harpole, and he held also the rectory of Castor from 1466 to 1474.

Sir Thomas Russell, priest, by Robert Tanfield, esq. 18 Sept. 1473. He has been already noticed under Harpole and Maidford.

Sir John Grenburgh, priest, 12 Feb. 1474—the John Grenborough who was vicar of St. Laurence, Northampton, from 1475 to 1478.

Sir Thomas Man, priest, 25 Oct. 1475. He was also rector of Thenford.

Sir Richard Tomlynson, priest, rector of Stowe, by the king, probably by lapse, 13 June, 1505.

Thomas Gardynere, occurs in the Valor Ecclesiasticus of 1535. He resigned for the rectory of Harpole, and

Sir John Millys or Milles, priest, was presented by Francis Tanfield, esq. and instituted 8 Oct. 1544. He was buried here 20 Nov. 1580,⁸ and

John Markes, vicar of Pateshull, was inst. 3 Sept. 1583. He was buried here 17 Mar. 1633, at 81,⁹ and

William Burkitt, B.D. was inst. the day following, on the presentation of William Burkitt of Gayton, yeoman [p.h.v.]. He was vicar of Pateshull from 1628 to 1633, and of Gulsborough from 1636 to about 1645.

Richard Gifford, accounted for the first fruits 11 June, 1649. He was buried here 2 Mar. 1655,¹⁰ and the benefice remained vacant till

Edmond Morgan of Magd. hall Oxf. D.D. was inst. 27 June, 1662 on the presentation of the bishop by lapse. He was buried at Kingsthorp 11 Feb. 1691, at 67,¹¹ and

William Gibbs, of Edmund Hall, Oxf. A.M. was presented by sir Thomas Samwell of Gayton bart. and inst. 8 May, 1682. He published a funeral sermon on 1 Thess. iv. v. 13. 1699. 4^{to}. He was buried here 21 July, 1716,¹² and his son

William Gibbs, of Exeter coll. Oxf. A.M. was inst. 25 Sept.

* Br. 1 p. 262.

** Sidney Sass. Coll. evidences.

† Mon. Ang. 1 p. 1016.

‡ Cotton MSS. Nero D.x. 6. 179.

§ Br. 1 p. 264

• Cotton MSS. Vesp. ex. 117. (omitted in Tax. Eccl. P. Rich. printed 1902).

¶ Assen. Off.

‡ Lambeth MSS. vol. 29 fo. 17.

§ Br. MSS. E p. 498.

* Par. Reg.

† Kingsbury Reg.

following, on the presentation of the rev. Thomas Keynton (p.h.v.) He was rector of Bugbrook from 1729 to 1734, and held the rectory of Great Houghton with this benefice from 1736 till his death. He was buried here 3 Aug. 1741,^a and

John Thompson, of Magdalen coll. Camb. A.B. lecturer of Boston in Lincolnshire, was presented by Thomas Samwell of Upton esq. and inst. 6 Aug. following. He died in Lincolnshire, Feb. 1753,^b and his successor

Walter Griffiths, was inst. 5 Apr. following on the presentation of Richard Kent of London, fishmonger. He was buried here 27 Apr. 1792,^c and

Christopher Hunter, of Sidney Sussex coll. Camb. B.D. was presented by the master of that college, and inst. 18 July following. He was a native of Margate in Kent, and maternal nephew of Christopher Smart, whose poetical works he edited in 1791, with a memoir of his life and writings, 2 vol. 12^{mo}.; and in 1799 published "Scepticism not separable from immorality, illustrated in the instances of Hume and Gibbon," a sermon preached in All Saints church, Northampton, at the archdeacon's visitation. 8^{vo}. He died in London, 20 May, 1814.^c His successor and former pupil

George Butler, A.B. 1794, A.M. 1797, B.D. 1804, D.D.

THE REGISTERS commence in 1558.

THE COMMUNION PLATE consists of a chalice, paten, and flagon, with the arms of *Verney*, and inscribed "the gift of George Verney, esq. to the parish church of Gayton in Northamptonshire."

THE CHURCH, dedicated to the *Holy Virgin*, is a neat but unpretending structure, at the north east end of the village, and consists of a tower containing three bells, nave, north and south aisles, south porch, north chapel and chancel. "On the great bell is *God Save King Charles*, 1662; on the second in black letter capitals, *For God and step the Earth*, 1594; and on the first, *Give thanks to God alwaies*, 1585." The exterior of the building has been thoroughly repaired, and the interior judiciously renovated and beautified by funds arising from the church lands and rates, aided by the munificence and taste of the present incumbent. The tower is 15ft. 2in. long, by 11ft. 5in. wide; the nave 39ft. 9in. long, by 17ft. 2in. wide; the north aisle 42ft. long, by 15ft wide; the north chapel 29ft. 5in. by 15ft. 9in. wide; the south aisle 39ft. 9in. long, by 13ft. 6in. wide; and the chancel 29ft. 7in. long, by 19ft. wide. The interior is paved with stone, and uniformly pedwed. Across the west end are two galleries, erected at the expence of the present incumbent: in the upper one is a neat organ, presented by him to the parish. At the west end of the nave is a circular font which may be referred to the early part of the thirteenth century, with intersecting arches trefoil headed, and a cable moulding over them.

The nave is divided from each aisle by three wide pointed arches, on low octangular pillars, with plain capitals. The north chapel or chantry was formerly the burial place of the Samwells, and parted off from the aisle and the chancel, with both of which it now communicates. The east end is converted into a vestry, and separated by a carved screen. The chancel is entered from the nave, under a lofty open arch. In the south wall is a trefoiled piscina. The east end within the communion rails is handsomely fitted up with carved oak in panels, and on each side are three stalls with turn up seats, exhibiting a variety of grotesque figures, fantastic animals, and rich foliage and flowers. The east window is decorated with painted glass, presented by W. H. Fox Talbot, esq. of Laycock Abbey, Wiltshire: in the centre is the crucifixion, between St. Christopher and St. John the evangelist.

In one of the south windows are the arms of Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, Ar. a bend engrailed S. *Rudolf earl of Sussex*, impaling O. a pheon Az. *Sidney*: and in the other window the arms of the incumbent, G. a chevron between three covered cups O. *Butler*, impaling G. a lion rampant within a border engrailed Ar. *Gray*.

MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS.

NAVE. Slabs for:

1. Mr. Thomas Litchfield, 9 Jan. 1731 æt. 62.
Sarah his wife, 2 Sept. 1730 æt. 63.
Pheasant Marriott s. of Thomas & Anne M. 13 Sept. 1740, æt. 6 mo. 2 weeks.
Mr. Thomas Marriott, husband of Anne M. 23 Oct. 1781, æt. 82.
Mrs. Anne Marriott, w. of the above, 28 May, 1788, æt. 76.

2. On a small brass plate:

WILLIAM HOUGHTON
NEERE FORTYSCORE YEARES HAVE I TARRIED
TO THIS MOTHER TO BEE MARRIED
ONE WIFE I HAD AND CHILDREN TENN
GOD BLESS THE LIVINGE AMEN. AMEN.
DECEASED 17 OF DECEMBER 1600.

SOUTH AISLE.

3. Samuel Markes, 6 May 1738 æt. 13.

NORTH AISLE.

4. Mrs. Daves wid. of Mr. Lancelot D. late of Kibworth co. Leic. Esq. 23 Mar. 1782 æt. 82.
Thomas Armstead gent. 23 June 1786 æt. 63.
Mary, wife of Mr. A. & dau. of above Lancelot Daves, 22 Jan. 1799 æt. 74.
5. Rev. JOHN ELDERTON.
DIED XXII NOV. MDCCCXXII.
ÆTAT LXXVIII.
6. John Marriott s. of Thos. & Anne M. 29 Jan. 1761 æt. 23.
Anne Hartley 15 July 1741.
William Hartley 27 Dec. 1763 æt. 50.
Thomas West Marriott s. of Thomas & Anne M. 23 Aug. 1772 æt. 41.

7. Frances Garrett w. of John G. late of London, 19 Feb. 1778 *et* 55.
Mr. John Garrett, husband of the above, 19 June, 1722 *et* 53.

8. Hannibal Rousy of Gayton gent. 28 July 1731 *et* 51.

CHANCELL I. In the south wall is a plain uninscribed altar tomb of Purbeck marble, with a compartment terminated by a deeply depressed arch embattled; and four blank escutcheons.

II. In the north wall opposite, is an altar tomb under an open trefoil headed ogee arch, with a foliated moulding

III. Within the altar rails on the north side, is a handsome mural monument of white marble, consisting of a large inscribed tablet, between two circular Corinthian pillars, supporting an entablature surmounted by a pediment between two flaming urns. *Arms.* Ar. a fess between three martlets S. *Lockwood*, on an inescutcheon, Erm. [Ar.] on a bend S. three plates, *Cutts*. Crest. On the stump of a tree erect Proper, a martlet S.

IN MEMORY OF
RICHARD LOCKWOOD ESQUIRE

LATE OF THIS PARISH,
WHOSE REMAINS WERE DEPOSITED IN THE FAMILY VAULT,
WITHIN THE NAVE OF THIS CHURCH, ON Y^e 3rd OF FEBRUARY 1665.
AGED 67.

Although educated in the warm feelings of attachment to the unfortunate, but exiled, House of Stuart, in the year 1693, he was selected for the office of High Sheriff of this his native county of Northampton, at a period, when the dissensions of party were at their height, and agitated with the violence of faction the remotest divisions of a disunited Empire.

In discharging the duties of a station at that crisis both difficult and arduous, combining in his own person soundness of judgment with moderation, and temper with firmness, he maintained public order inviolate, and conciliated conflicting interests long opposed to each other. Nor in the walks of private life was he less deserving of respect and imitation, by a generous yet regulated indulgence to his children, by unshaken constancy as a husband, or by firm fidelity as a friend.

By his side reposeh likewise the body of SUSANNAH his wife, the sole accomplished daughter and heiress of Edwards Cutts, Esq. (cousin german of John Lord Cutts, for his distinguished gallantry in the campaigns of King William, as also in the battles of John Duke of Marlborough, created Baron of Gowran, in the kingdom of Ireland) and descended from the very ancient family of that name long resident at Arkesden, in Essex, and at Childerley, in Cambridgeshire; here buried y^e 14th of May, 1709. AGED 68.

They left issue two sons and five daughters, all of whom were born at this place.

ANNA, the eldest, born September y^e 15th 1667, was the second wife of Thomas Maydwell Esq. of Geddington, in the hundred of Corby, Northamptonshire, and mother of Cutts Maydwell Esq. late of the same; she died on y^e 29th of April 1731, aged 63, and with her husband and son resteth at Geddington.

SUSANNAH, the second daughter, born on y^e 14th of May 1669, married James Sherard M.D. and F.R.S. whose name will long be celebrated for his superior proficiency in the sciences of physic and botany. She died on y^e 27th of November 1741, aged 72, and was interred with others of the Sherard family at Ervington, in the county of Leicester.

MARY, the third daughter, born on y^e 10th of November 1670, was the wife of John Grene, Esq.

PRISCILLA, the fourth daughter, was born on y^e 19th of October, 1673, and married E. Burt Esq. and had issue, a daughter ANN.

ELIZABETH, the fifth and youngest, born on y^e 29th of March, 1680, was united in marriage to the Rev. Dr. Barton, formerly the Rector of St. Andrews, Holborn, and by him was the mother of two sons CUTTS and MONTAGU BARTON; the former of whom was the successor to his father in the rectory of the aforesaid Parish.

CUTTS, the eldest son of Richard and Susannah Lockwood, born on y^e 8th of July 1672, passed early into foreign parts, and departed this life while in the progress of his travels, at Smyrna, on January y^e 3^d 1709.

RICHARD LOCKWOOD, the second, born at Gayton on y^e 6th of May 1678, was sent while a youth into foreign Countries for the improvement of his education and fortune; but returning to his native land on the demise of his elder brother devoted himself for many years both to extensive traffic at home, and also to the public service of his Sovereign and Country, being elected in the last Parliament of Queen Anne A.D. 1713 M.P. for Hindon, co. Wilts, for the City of London, 1722, and for Worcester, 1734, in the reigns of Kings George I and II. As a senator he supported with zeal such measures as he considered most conducive to the honour, the independence, and the national glory of Great Britain; and maintained till his death the principles which he had imbibed from his youth. The influence that attended successful commercial enterprise, was by his liberality employed in mitigation of the sorrows and relief of the distressed of mankind; while the steady patronage and support he uniformly afforded to those humane and charitable institutions, which ornament the metropolis of England, gave testimony to the right exercise of the talent committed to his charge. 25th February 1712 he espoused MATILDA, the daughter of George Vernon Esq. of Sudbury, in Derbyshire, and aunt to George Venables, afterwards created Lord Vernon, by whom he was the father of a family of nine sons and two daughters.

RICHARD LOCKWOOD, the eldest son, born on y^e 18th of December 1712, married his first cousin ANNA CATHERINA, the only sister of Lord Vernon.

JOHN, born on y^e 18th of October 1716, married MATILDA, second daughter of Edward Conyers Esq. of Copt Hall, in Essex.

EDWARD, A.M. born on y^e 6th of January 1720, was sometime Fellow of All Souls College, Oxford; thence promoted to the Rectory of St. Peters, in the town of Northampton, with the chapels of Kingsthorpe and Upton annexed; married LUCY, the daughter and co-heiress of the Rev. William Dowdeswell, Rector of Kingham, in Oxfordshire.

THOMAS, born on y^e 28th of October 1723, married BRIDGET, the sister of Sir John Morris Bart. of Swansea, in the county of Glamorgan.

WILLIAM, A.M. born on y^e 20th of June 1725, was rector of Fyfield, in the county of Essex; married Miss MARY BENNETT, and with all his brothers (except the eldest) had issue.

Also four sons, who died young, viz.

- 1 GEORGE VERNON, born on y^e 14th of November, and died on y^e 3^d of December 1714.
- 2 HENRY, died of the yellow fever at Jamaica, in the West Indies, A.D. 1738, aged 20 years.
- 3 JAMES, born on y^e 31st of December 1720, was inhumanly assassinated, while resident in Portugal.
- 4 CHARLES, born on y^e 1st of February 1722, died on y^e 22nd of February, the same year.

Their sisters MATILDA and CATHARINE, were born on y^e 25th of January 1729, and on y^e 20th of November 1730. RICHARD, their father, in his declining years, withdrew from the cares and perplexity attendant upon public business to his seat at Dews Hall in Essex, whither (from regard to the ancestors of his mother) he had transferred his residence, and having kept himself throughout a long life, in no common degree, unspotted by the world, came to the grave in a full age like as a shock of corn cometh in in his season, and is gone, we would fain hope, to receive eternal happiness, in the promise vouchsafed to the good and faithful servant, "and to be made perfect" in the paradise of his Father and his God.

He departed this life at his above-mentioned seat at Dews Hall on y^e 31st of August 1756, aged 78, and together with MATILDA his beloved wife, who died at the same place, on y^e 25th of November 1743, aged 54, was buried in a vault, constructed at his expense, within the chancel of Lambourne Church, in the said county of Essex.

Mrs. MARY GRENE, his third sister, married John Grene Esq. of Enfield, in Middlesex, a branch of the family of Greens Norton, in this county; and remaining many years his Widow, died in London, on the 9th of February 1759, at the advanced age of 88 years and three months. Her body was from thence removed, and interred in the same vault with her father and mother, in this Church, on y^e 17th of the same month.

Under a cherub's head below the inscription, "VIVIT POST FUNERA VIRTUS."

9. HERE LYETH THE BODY OF
JANE WHEELLOWES WIDOW
SECOND WIFE OF MATTHIAS
WHEELLOWES GENT. WHO
DEPARTED THIS LIFE THE
18th DAY OF MARCH
ANNO DOM.
1682^{1/2}
10. HERE LYETH INTERRED THE
BODY OF WILLIAM WHEELLOWES
ESQUIRE WHO DEPARTED THIS
LIFE THE DAY OF SEPT.
.....
IN THE OF HIS AGE.
11. The Revd.
WALTER GRIFFITHS
39 years Rector of this Parish
Died April 20th 1792
Aged 67 years.
Also
ANNA MARIA *Relict*
of the above WALTER.
She died 4th Jan^y. 1805
aged 90.

12. Within the altar rails

HERE LYETH THE BODY OF
MRS. MARY GIBBS
relict of the Rev. Mr. WM. GIBBS
late Rector of this Parish,
who departed this life
May 2^d 1739.
Also the Body of the Revd.
Mr. WM. GIBBS
Son of the said WM. and MARY
Also Rector of this Parish,
who departed this life
July 31. 1741
Aged 63.

13. Here lyeth the body of
Mr. John Gibbs son of
Mr. William Gibbs Rector
of this Parish and Mary
his wife, who dyed at
London June the first
and was buried here
June y^e 4th A.D. 1714.
Aged 21.
14. Here Lyeth the Body
of Mrs. Mary Gibbs Eldest

Daughter of Mr. William
Gibbs Rector of this
Parish and Mary his
wife who Deceased the
21 day of August
A.D. 1707 et
Ætatis sue 17^o.

15. HERE LYETH THE BODY OF THE
REVEREND MR. WILLIAM GIBBS
LATE RECTOR OF THIS PARISH
WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE JULY
THE 19th 1716 IN THE 67th YEAR
OF HIS AGE.

NORTH CHAPEL. IV. In front of the window and projecting from the north wall is an alabaster altar tomb, on the slab of which are cut the full sized figures of Francis Tanfield, esq. and Bridget his wife. He is bare headed, and in an ornamental suit of plate armour, with chain mail tassettes, and broad toed slashed sollerets; a long sword at his left, and a dagger at his right side. His feet rest on a greyhound, and a sleeping lap dog is placed at the feet of his lady. Beneath them are eight sons and ten daughters, four of each in swaddling clothes, and under them the initials of their respective christian names, C. F. A. F. B. A. L. I. T. Y. A. M. E. M. I. B. S. I. The side and ends of the tomb have lozenges in square pannels, within which are repeated the arms of *Tanfield* and *Cave*. Round the ledge is inscribed—*hic jacet franciscus Tanfield Armiger et Brigitta ux' ejus qui quidem franciscus obiit An^o dni 1558 Nobiles 21^o die quoniam vita Christus est. Brigitta v'o obiit An^o dni 1583 Junii 20^o die. Requiescant in pace.*

V. Collateral to the last, under a monumental arch with bold mouldings springing from plain capitals, is a full sized female figure which may with little hesitation be assigned to Scolastica de Meaux. Her head is supported on a square cushion, and her feet press on a lion. She has a long Paris hood or veil, falling gracefully on her shoulders, and confined round the head by a studded fillet, from which a smaller fillet rises over the forehead, disclosing her parted hair in front. Her robe is loose, with tight sleeves from the elbows, and close buttoned at the wrists. Her mantle is fastened across the breast by a cordon, which she holds in her left hand; her right hand reposes by her side, and the folds of her drapery are gathered under each arm. The figure in material, design, and execution bears so striking a resemblance to the royal females on the Queen's Cross near Northampton, that it must have been imitated from, if not the actual production of, the same sculptor.

VI. On a bracket over the figure of Scolastica de Meaux, and within her monumental arch, the present incumbent has deposited an interesting sepulchral memorial, which, having been expelled from its original situation, and built, face inwards, into the exterior east wall of the north chapel, was discovered by him during its reparation in 1830. The stone is only 2ft. long and 7in. wide, and consequently the rudely executed figure of a young female, which it presents, is of unusually small dimensions. She has a flowing veil confined across the forehead with a studded fillet; bare neck; hands elevated; and low plain vest reaching to her feet which rest on an animal. At the end beneath her head are two shields, on the dexter one may be traced a fess between fleurs de lis—the coat of the second family of Gayton—and on the sinister one, two bars, in chief three roundels. On one side, under a foliated border, may with difficulty be discerned in Lombardic characters, “H. jacet in tumba Mabila filia Thomæ de [Gayton].”

VII. On the north wall is an oval tablet of grey marble, in the centre of which on an escutcheon Az. a lion passant gardant O. a chef. *Erm. Kent*, and on a scroll beneath is inscribed:

RIC^d KENT CIVIS LONDINENSIS
obit 14 Oct. 1753 ætat 63.

VIII. Above the last is an oval tablet of white marble, surmounted by *Kent*. Crest. On a wreath of the colours, a lion's head erased O. collar Az.

To
the Memory of
RICHARD KENT ESQ.
late Major of the
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE MILITIA,
who departed this Life
January the 8th
1780
Aged 49 years.

16. Arms. *Kent* impaling on a fess between three lions' heads as many fleurs de lis.

Richard Kent Esq. 12 Oct. 1753 æt 64.

Mrs. Sarah Kent, wife of Richard K. Esq. 10 Oct. 1757, æt 54.
Richard Kent Esq. 1780.

17. On a sculptured slab. Arms, an eagle displayed [Az. a pale between two eagles displayed Az. *Woodward*] impaling *Harrington*. By an heraldic error these arms are transposed.

HERE LIETH
INTERRED THE BODY
OF THE LADY JANE
HARRINGTON WIDOW
OF ST SAPCOTE HARR-
INGTON OF RAND IN

BENEFACTIONS (vide p. 263). POOR'S ESTATE. Bridges thus notices this land. “A piece of ground called the *Alms-ground* was long since given to the poor of this parish, and is usually let for about X£ yearly?”

The Alms-ground, now divided into the Upper Alms-ground, containing 10a. 2r. 32p. and the Lower Alms-ground 10a. 0r. 35p. was left, according to the trust deed of 1698, for the relief of such poor people who shall be inhabitants of Gayton and do not receive any collection from the parish; and the trustees are directed, quarterly, on the eves of St. John the Baptist, of St. Michael, of Christmas Day, and of Lady Day, before evening prayer at the sound of the bell, to bring into the Church the rents, &c. and then and there with the advice and direction of the parson and churchwardens, to agree how and to which poor people, qualified as aforesaid, the same shall be distributed after evening prayer in the Church openly before the congregation by the hands of the parson; and in case the trustees fail in bringing the rents, it shall be lawful for the parson and churchwardens to receive and distribute the same. In 1709, the trustees, with money then in hand, purchased the close called Flitnell's, containing 4a. 0r. 12p. and settled it upon the same uses. No fresh appointment of trustees has been made for many years, and the management of the estate has devolved entirely upon the minister and churchwardens, by whom the rent, which is now £52. 10s. *per ann*, is distributed in sums varying from 2s. to 7s. among poor persons not receiving alms.

* Br. I. p. 265.

LINCOLNSHIRE DAUGH-
-TER OF MR. JOHN AND
ISABELL WOODWARD
OF MARSON IN WAR-
-WICKSHIRE SHRE DE-
-PARTED THIS LIFE
THE 26 DAY OF JANU-
-ARY 1662.
FOR PATIENCE HUMIL-
-LITY AND CHARITY
ONE OF THE BEST OF
CHRISTIANS. THIS
IS A JUST CHARAC-
-TER GIVEN HER BY D^r.
EDM. MORGAN RECT-
-OR OF GAYTON.

18. On a small brass plate:

Here lieth the body of
Mrs. Mary Bregon Daugh-
-ter of John Bregon of Nor-
ton juxta Dacwenty in this
County Esquire who de-
-parted this life the twelfth
day of August Anno Dom.
MDCCIV.

In the seventy ninth year
of her Age.

19. HERE LIETH THE BODY OF
MARIANNE FRANCES BUTLER
ELDEST DAUGHTER OF
GEORGE BUTLER DD. RECTOR
AND SARAH MARIA, HIS WIFE,
WHO, BORN 6th APRIL 1821,
DIED 22nd SEPTEMBER 1831.

20. WILLIAM HUGHES ESQUIRE
LATE OF MERKINCH
IN THE COUNTY OF INVERNESS,
BORN AT PEN-Y-CLAWD
IN THE COUNTY OF DENBIGH
VIII FEB. MDCCXXIX.
DIED AT NORTHAMPTON
XVIII JAN. MDCCCXXVII.

Bridges records the following inscription in the north aisle, which has disappeared:

Here lyes the body of Dorothy Bellingham wi-
-dow and relict of James Bellingham of Upper
Levens in the County of Westmoreland Esq. one of
the daughters of Sir Sapcote Harrington of Rand
in the County of Lincoln Knight who died April
the 24 MDCCVIII. in the 87th year of her age.
Who is gone to that happy place, where only her
justice and honour, goodness and charity, piety and
virtue can be recorded.

CHURCH LANDS. Bridges states that "upon the inclosure of Gayton field in 1600, it was agreed by the general consent of the inhabitants, to set apart ten acres on the east side of the Alms-ground, in lieu of the like number of acres dispersed in several parts of the same field which before that time was used as town ground. This portion of land is now let for about X£ a year."

This estate is appropriated to "keeping the church in good order and repair," and comprises two closes, one called the Great Church-ground, containing 11a. 0r. 29r., and the Little Church-ground, 3a. 2r. 28p. exclusive of the public road.

The Great Church-ground is now subdivided into allotments of a rood or half a rood to sundry poor inhabitants, and produces a rental of £31. 15s. per ann. The Little Church-ground is let for £7. 2s. 6d. per ann.

THE ALMSHOUSES. About a quarter of a mile south of the village, is a row of eight small tenements for poor people, four of which are ancient buildings supposed to be part of the poor's estate, and the others were erected at the expense of the parish. Each almshouse contains two apartments, and the whole are occupied rent free by poor families put in by the parish officers, and are repaired by the parish.

COLD HIGHAM,

in Domesday Hecha, and in early records, Hecham, Hegham and Heygham, is of Saxon derivation; literally—the high place or dwelling—and the adjunct *Cold*, is as obviously allusive to its bleak and exposed situation. The lordship, including its members, contains about 1700 acres. Potcote is all old inclosure; and the open fields of Cold Higham, with Grimscothe, were inclosed by act of parliament 52 Geo. 3 (1812). The principal proprietors are George Henry duke of Grafton, K.G. lord of the manor, who has about 1120 acres, including Potcote; the rector, in right of his church, about 253 acres; and George William Richard, earl of Pomfret, a minor, about 195 acres. It is bounded on the north by Stowe in Fawsley hundred, from which it is divided by a rivulet called Stowe brook, which rises in Farthingstone field and falls into the Nen at Lower Hoar-stone in Heyford parish; on the east by Pateshull; on the south by Green's Norton and Blakesley, both in Norton hundred; and on the south-west and west by Litchborough, in Fawsley hundred. The soil of nearly three-fourths of the lordship is a strong clay, and of the remainder a light loam. About one-third is in permanent pasture.

MANORIAL HISTORY. MORETON FEE^a. One portion of "Hecha" [Higham] was the Saxon freehold of *Leuric*,[†] rated at 5s. yearly, but raised to 20s. at the domesday survey, when it was held by *Alan* under the earl of Moreton. It contained two hides, and four parts of half a hide. The arable land was six carucates; one of which was in demesne; another in possession of four villeins, with a *priest* and three bordars; and four remained unaccounted for, or uncultivated, notwithstanding the valuation was quadrupled. There were ten acres of meadow.^b

The paramountcy of this estate accompanied WHILTON. The arrangement entered into between Mowbray and Stutevill, and the consequent intermediate seignior, are there fully detailed; and no more is necessary here than to state, that Grimscothe—as this portion of Higham is generally denominated in the public records—was held by the service of one fee, and is usually associated with Whilton and Staverton, in the Testa de Nevill,^c and inquisitions of the Mowbrays^d and Wakes.^e In some inquisitions this manor is returned as subordinate to the manor of Whilton.^f In the courts at Whilton, held by Nicholas Brome esq. guardian of John Beaufort, within age, in 8 and 9 Hen. 7 (1492 and 1493), the jurors presented, that John Langley, lord of Grimscothe, held the said manor of the lord of this manor by knight's service and suit at court, with homages, heriots, and other services;^g and in the "rentale" of the said Brome in the former year, under the free tenants, it is entered, that John Langley, lord of Grimscothe, free tenant of the lord of Whilton for the manor of Grimscothe by homage, fealty, and suit at court, with heriots, renders to the said lord 2s. yearly for fine,^h for non attendance at the court.

^a Br. 1. p. 265. "Reg. Piroch."

^b Domesd. fo. 223.

^c Test. Nev. fo. 135, 129, & 130.

^d Esc. 35 Edw. 3 p. 2. n. 59;

^e Esc. 40 Edw. 3

1 Hen. 4. n. 71; & 3 Hen. 6. n. 25.

^f Esc. 10 Edw. 1 n. 26; 23 Edw. 3 n. 75; 26 Edw. 3 n. 54; 12 Hen. 4. n. 35. &c.

n. 40; & 4 Hen. 7. n. 72.

^g Title Deeds of late Dr. Rattray.

^h Vide BEBBROOK vol. 1 p. 460.

[†] Vide WELTON vol. 1 p. 461.

[‡] Vide WHILTON vol. 1 p. 230.

GRIMSCOTE MANOR. *Alan*, the domesday mesne lord, was ancestor of the Wheltons of WHILTON.* One of his immediate successors must have subinfeudated this estate; for in the hydariam of Hen. 2, *Ansel* or *Anselm* was certified to hold two hides and four small virgates in Grimscothe of the fee of Roger de Mowbray† and by an undated deed, *Richard*, son of *Anselm* de Grimscothe, granted certain lands in Higham.‡ *Richard*, lord of Grimscothe, probably the same person, granted a messuage and a virgate of land in Farthingston, to Mary his daughter;§ in 9 Edw. 2 (1315), *John* de Grimscothe was lord of Grimscothe;¶ and in 15 Edw. 2 (1322), with Joan his wife, demised a messuage and lands in Farthingstone.¶

In 9 Edw. 3 (1335) *sir Robert de Daventre* had a grant of free warren in all his demesne lands in (Cold) Higham, Potcote, Grimscothe, Farthingston and Daventry, so that they were not within the metes of the forest.‡ He settled this manor on *Philip de Daventre*, his younger son, for life, remainder to his own right heirs.§ In 20 Edw. 3 (1346) on levying the aid for knighting the king's eldest son, Robert, son of Robert de Daventre, and Philip his brother, accounted for half a fee in Grimscothe, held of lord Mowbray.‡ Philip subsequently forfeited this manor on being convicted of felony, and it remained in the king's hands till the expiration of his life interest, when it passed by virtue of the intail to *Simon de Daventre*, son of John, and grandson and heir of *sir Robert*.‡ By deed, dated 11 Jan. 8 Hen. 4 (1407), *William Daventre*, son of Robert Daventre—and probably grandson of Simon—with Katherine his wife, and *William Herford* and *John Glasier*, clerks, his feoffees, conveyed the manors of Grimscothe and Potcote, and all their lands and tenements there, together with the advowson of the church of Higham juxta Pattishall to

William de la Pole, of the county of Derby,‡ to whom in 10 Hen. 4 (1409) Daventre and his wife levied a fine of them, for which they received of him 200 marks of silver (£133. 6s. 8d.). By an indenture in June the same year, John Langley and Joan his wife surrendered to William de la Pole and Margery his wife, a yearly rent charge of 60s. which they had granted them out of the manor of Grimscothe, on condition that they might hold the manor of Atherstone on Stour, Warwickshire, and all their other lands discharged from all manner of rent; the claim for the 60s. yearly, to be revived if rent should ever be demanded of them by the said William and Margery or their heirs.‡ De la Pole and his wife, suspecting Daventre of having by fraudulent collusion with his feoffees unjustly withheld some of the lands which were included in his purchase, brought an assize of novel disseisin against him in 11 Hen. 4 (1409) when, it appears by a certificate from the chief clerk of the justices of assize at Northampton, that the plaintiffs produced a grant made 6 Jan. 8 Hen. 4 (1407) by William Herford and John Glasier, clerks, to Roger Westwode and William Arden, of the county of Buckingham, of all their estate in the lands and tenements in Towcester which formerly belonged to *sir John Clinton*, in the meadow in Pateshall which belonged to Robert de Daventre, in a messuage and a virgate of land called Scoresland in Cold Hygham, and in another messuage and virgate of land called Foxland in Grimscothe, which they had of the defendants' feoffment.‡ This grant the plaintiff alleged was subsequent to the conveyance to him, though antedated five days prior to it. In May the year following (12 Hen. 4) John Swynerton esq. made affidavit that Thomas Tykhyll, of the county of Derby, in the presence of many "gentles" and of himself, in a tavern in Schepe (Cheapside), London, said upon his oath, that one night lately he was lodged in Towcester at an hostel called "Le Swan in the hope" which at that time belonged to John Saunders of Towcester, and that the said John declared to him upon his oath, that he well knew that William Daventre "esquiere" had greatly deceived William de la Pole touching his bargain of the manors of Grimscothe and Potcote, and other things contained in the deed made between them.‡ And another affidavit was made by William Overton, of Higham, and others, stating, that they were present on the Saturday after St. Hilary, 8 Hen. 4 (1407), in the garden of the manor house at Grymscothe, when William Arden, of the county of Buckingham, delivered seisin to William de la Pole, of the county of Derby, of the said manors, and all other things contained in a deed thereof made by William Daventre esq. and others, without any exception, according to the form of the warrant to de la Pole thereupon made and read before them there with the deed aforesaid, although the said William Arden had previously told the deponents, that they well knew that John Arden, his cousin, was enfeoffed by the said William Daventre as well of the tenement called Foxland in Grymscothe, as of the tenement called Scoresland in Parva Higham, and he would on that account except them; to which the deponents answered, that they did not previously, nor did they then know any thing thereof; and immediately thereupon the seisin having been fully delivered, the said William de la Pole, in the presence of the said deponents, and of William Arden, asked William Herford then parson of the church of Higham, one of the parties to the deed aforesaid, and jointly enfeoffed by the said William Daventre to fulfill his pleasure of all things therein contained, if he had before the said Saturday made any deed or feoffment to any one of aught contained in the said deed, or had in any wise encumbered the same; who thereunto replied with a great oath, that he had not, which the said William Arden did not deny. And hereupon the said William de la Pole entered into all the manors and lands contained in the aforesaid deed, and specially into the aforementioned tenements called Foxland and Scoresland, and took the attainments of the farmers and tenants.‡ By an undated deed, but which must have been posterior to these proceedings, William Daventre "esquier" demitted to *sir John de Grey*, son of *Reginald* lord Grey de Ruthyn, and three others, rendering therefore £10 yearly in silver, all the estate which he had in the manors of Grimscothe and Potcote, and advowson of Cold Higham which lately belonged to William de la Pole, and were delivered to him in execution by force of a statute merchant for £140 due to him.‡

In Sept. 10 Edw. 4 (1470) *Isabella Langley*, daughter and heiress of William de la Pole, sergeant at law, and widow of *Walter Langley*, esq. of Knolton in Kent, conveyed her manors of Grimscothe, Potcote, and advowson of Higham, to feoffees, who in the following month re-conveyed them to her for life, remainder to her sons John Langley, Edmund Langley, and William Langley, and her daughter Matilda Wikes successively in fee tail, remainder to her heirs general.‡

* Cotton MSS. Vesp. Exxij. fo. 96. † Harl. MSS. No. 7, fo. 52. ‡ Ibid. fo. 49. § Carlisle MSS. Nom. Vill. p. 10. ¶ Harl. MSS. No. 7, fo. 44.

† Rot. Cart. 9 Edw. 3, n. 13. ‡ Esc. 50 Edw. 3, p. 2, n. 23. § Ibid. MSS. No. 38, p. 198, "Comp. Walt. Paris. 20 Edw. 3." ¶ Esc. 50 Edw. 3, p. 2, n. 23.

¶ Harl. MSS. No. 7, fo. 59, b. † Ibid. fo. 48, b. ‡ Ibid. fo. 46, b. § Ibid. fo. 38. ¶ Ibid. fo. 85, b.

¶ Ibid. fo. 59. † Ibid. fo. 46. ‡ Ibid. fo. 10, b. § Ibid. fo. 61.

¶ Vide Whilton vol. 1, p. 231. † Vide Daventry vol. 1, p. 509.

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In 14 Edw. 4 (1474) John Langley transferred them to his brother William.^a The contemporary "No^a bn" and "Add" which follow, elucidatory of the arrangement between the two brothers, and the precautionary provisos in case their heirs should enforce the mother's entail, are too curious not to be given *verbatim*.

"No^a bn. Be hit rememberit that ye sayd John Langley ye sonne of Wa^t Langley & Isabell ye fad^r & mod to Wilt John & Edmond & Maude. The sayd John hath gefe in ye wey of an exchange to his brō William Langley the ma^ris of Potecote & Grimescote w^t ye avouson & ye p^rtiⁿ longing to ye sayd ma^ris intaylad as hit ys in dedis a fore wrete & also ye sayd John hath releasith his part of ye londys in Gavelkynde in Kent y^t schold descende to hym be rygth of the^r fad^r Wa^t Langley to hys sayd brō Wilt Langley in fee simplit as hit aperith in a relese folowyng. And also ye sayd William Langley hath gevin in an exchange for ye sayd ma^ris of Potecote & Grimescote & ye sayd Gavelkynde lond in Kent releasith to his brō John Langley the ma^ril of Adeston in Warwik she^r to ye sayd John & his heyres in ye tayle & for faute of issue of ye sayd John to remaⁿ to ye sayd Wilt & hys heyres as in ye former tayle as it aperith be a recorde intayled made be his mody^r dame Issabell Langley afore wrete, as hit aperith by an endentur of iiii ptes wth copy ys wretyn afy^r. And yef it w^r so y^t ye sayd John ys heyres woli make any tytill to ye sayd ma^ris of Potecote and Grimescote be ye resoⁿ of ye former tayle yan it wold be lawfull for ye heyres of ye sayd Wilt Langley to entre yn to ye sayd ma^ril of Addyston be resoⁿ of her former tayle. The wych dedys made to heche o^r in ye tayle be resoⁿ of exchange we^r rehersed & enrollid in dors claus Cancellarⁱ Regis E^g quarti quarto decimo mense Maii anno antedict for both pytes yef ye dedys be so enrollid &c.

Alle ye hole dedis & Rollys of ye ma^ril of Addyston were deliv^yd by Wilt Langley to hys brō John Langley & so ye sayd John deliv^yd to his brō^r Wilt alle ye dedys of ye ma^ris of Potecote & Grimescote & yef any of them die w^t owte issue yan he yat hath nede may resorte to ye Chan^c & to have a copy oute of ye Chan^c as ye daye & yef afore wrete wolle apere yef mo^r playnly w^t oute y^t ye sectores & o^rsears wolle of Conciens deliv^y ye sayd londys & dedys w^t fayrenes as god wolle have it ij p^ry hym for my part so be it & Contewen as longe as it pleyth hym."^b

Subsequently, is given a "Tercer, y^t ys to saye a knowlege of ye ten^rts whatt londe ye sayd Wilt Langley hath in his ma^ris of Potecote & Grimescote in North^rtonschyre w^{ch} ys wretyn playnly,"^c and occupies eight closely written folio pages minutely describing the situation and boundaries of the various lands. William Langley, by whom, or for whose use the Langley Cartulary from which these extracts are made, was probably compiled, died in 22 Edw. 4 (1482) seised of the manors of Grimsco^te and Potcote, leaving John Langley, his son and heir, a minor aged sixteen years,^d who occurs as lord in 9 Hen. 7 (1493)^e but in 14 Hen. 7 (1498) John Clarel^l, and Eleanor his wife, only surviving child of John Langley, levied a fine of these manors and the advowson of Higham, to Sir Richard Empson, of EASTON NESTON,* with warranty against the heirs of Eleanor.^f

DE LA POLE AND LANGLEY OF GRIMSCOTE AND HIGHAM.

From Harleian MSS. No. 7, with additions from other authorities.

Arms. POLE. Azure, a lion rampant Argent, between three fleurs de lis Or. LANGLEY. Argent, a fess sable, in chief three pellets. LANGLEY OF KENT. Quarterly, per fess indented Azure and Or.

William de la Pole of co. Derby, & of Grimsco^te & Higham, 8 Hen. 4 (1407) = Margaret d. of John Langley & sist. & h. of John L. of Atherstone co. Warw sergeant at law 3 Hen. 5 (1417), dead 12 Hen. 6 (1433). oc. mar. 10 Hen. 4 (1409) living 12 Hen. 6 (1433).

Isabella, daughter and heiress, devised Grimsco^te, &c. to her son John, living = Walter Langley, of Knolton, co. Kent, esq. oc. mar. 32 Hen. 6 (1433) dead 10 Edw. 4 (1470). 10 Edw. 4 (1470).

1 w. Joan d. of Thomas Lyley of Hampole co. Kent.	= 1 William Langley of Atherstone co. Warw. & of Grimsco ^t e & Higham by exchange 14 Edw. 4 (1474) ob. 22 Edw. 4 (1482) Esc. 4 Hen. 7 n. 72.	= 2 w. Elizabeth d. of John Isaac of Patriskilours co. Kent.	= 2 John Langley of Grimsco ^t e & Higham & of Atherstone co. Warw. by exchange 14 Edw. 4 (1474).	... 3 Edmund = Joan d. of Matilda living 10 Edw. 4 (1470); w. of John Tame of Nikes of Darley co. Fairford co. Glouc.
John Langley at 16 Esc. 4 Hen. 7 (1488) ob. p. 1493) ob. s. p.	Eliza- beth ob. s. p.	Alice ob. s. p.	John ob. s. p.	Eleanor had Ather- stone co. Warw. & Grimsco ^t e & Higham liv. 14 Hen. 7 (1498).
				John Clarel ^l , esq. of Grimsco ^t e & Higham jur. sa. sold Atherstone 12 Hen. 7 sold Grimsco ^t e &c. 14 Hen. 7.
				Walter Lang- ley ob. s. p.
				1 Christian sist. & coh. 1 1 h. William Pye; A. 2 h. Roger Wigston of Woolston co. Warw.
				2. Alice or Ann sist. & coh.; mar. John Handley, of a sandish, co. Glouc.
				3. Isabel sist. & coh.; 1 1 h. Henry Ketley; 2 h. Scudmore.

The manors of Grimsco^te—including Potcote—and Higham, with the advowson of Higham, were included in the same purchase as Towcester from Thomas Empson, esq. son and heir of sir Richard Empson, by Richard Fernor, esq. in 22 Hen. 8 (1530),^f and have since descended by the same title down to George William Richard 5th earl of Pomfret, a minor, the present proprietor (1838); but this estate has ceased to be considered manorial, and the duke of Grafton was the only recognised lord of the manor in the act of inclosure.

WODHULL FEE.† The other portion of Hecha [Higham] lay near the church of Pascella [Pateshull] and was held at the domesday survey by Godwin, under Walter Flandrensis, the ancestor of the Wodhulls. It contained two hides. The arable land was five carucates; of which, one was in demesne, and nine villains, with a priest and three bordars, had two others; leaving two unaccounted for. It had been valued at 40s. yearly, but was now reduced to half the amount,^g whilst the other portion was quadrupled in value, though four carucates were not in cultivation.^h

DUNSTABLE PRIORY OR PATESHULL MANOR. The grandson of Walter Flandrensis, Walter de Wadhull or Wodhull,† granted to the church of St. Peter, or priory of Dunstable, the moiety of the church of Hecham [Higham],

* Harl. MSS. No. 7, fo. 62. † Ibid fo. 62 b. & 63. ‡ Esc. 4 Hen. 7, n. 72. § Title deeds of late Dr. Rattery. || Hatton MSS. Fin. Hll.

14 Hen. 7. ¶ Pomfret evidences. † Domesd. fo. 226 b. ‡ Ibid fo. 223.

* Vide p. 141. † Vide THORNTON vol. 1, p. 711.

and all the land of Grimescot of his fee, with the mill and all other appurtenances, and quit claimed to it, all works and customs which his tenants had been accustomed to render to him in summer or winter, or at any other time.^a Accordingly, in the hydarium of Hen. 2, the monks of Dunstable, in Bedfordshire, were returned to hold two hides in Grimescote of the fee of Wadhull^b or Wodhull.

In the reign of king John, prior Richard, and the convent of Dunstable, granted for 100s. all their land of Grimescote and Hecha [Higham], with the mill and all appurtenances—except the church of Hecham, and half a virgate of land with a croft, in Pateshull, to

Simon de Pateshull^c and his heirs, rendering £4. 12s. yearly to the priory for the land of Grimescot and Hecham; 12d. yearly for the half virgate in Pateshull; one pound of incense at the feast of the nativity for the croft; and on the further condition, that he and his heirs should, three times in the year, provide fit lodging for the prior, with four sumpter horses [caballis], or, twice in the year, with six sumpter horses.^d This reserved rent of £4. 12s. per ann. occurs as the farm or rent of the manor of Grimescot in the minister's accounts, 34 Hen. 8, on the dissolution of the priory;^e and to this service, somewhat varied, may be referred the tenure returned in the inquisition after the death of Catherine Tudenham, one of the coheirs of Pateshull.^f

In 1274 (2 Edw. 1) *Simon de Pateshull*, and his son John, did homage for Grimescote to prior Simon, and gave him a bond for 46s. 6d. for his relief^g and in the following year, the jurors of Towcester hundred presented that John de Pateshull had view of frank pledge and assise of bread and beer in Grimescote, but they knew not by what warrant.^h He died in 1290 (18 Edw. 1), and his son, *Simon de Pateshull*, gave security for 46s. to the prior of Dunstable, for relief, and did homage for his lands in Grimescote and Pateshull.ⁱ His son, *John de Pateshull*, was certified to be one of the lords of Higham and Grimescote in 9 Edw. 2 (1315)^j and in 3 Edw. 3 (1329) he gave the king 10s. to be admitted to claim certain liberties not claimed at the last iter, and for wayf in his manor of Grimescote not claimed on the first day of the present iter. Besides wayf in Grimescote, he claimed correction of assise of bread and beer, and whatsoever view of frank pledge belonged in his manor of Hecham and Grimescote; for which he pleaded prescription, and derived his title from the prior's grant to his ancestor Simon, alleging that the predecessors of the prior, and his own progenitors, had view of frank pledge twice every year; being asked if he had pillory and tumbrel to punish offenders against the assise, he said, his predecessors had immemorially punished by fine and amercement only, but that he had a standard gallon, pottle, and quart, which he received from the king's marshall and the justices itinerant when they came into those parts, and that he burnt or broke all false measures. The king's attorney prayed judgment for the crown; and a jury was summoned, who presented, that the view of frank pledge immemorially belonged to the manor, but as to the assise of bread, John had no baker, and therefore levied nothing, and as to the assise of beer, he fined offenders 2s. As to wayf, the king's attorney pleaded, that William de Clinton and Juliana his wife claimed it as belonging to the hundred of Towcester, which she had in dower, of the inheritance of Laurence de Hastings, in ward to the king; and further proceedings were stayed till he attained his full age. But John having neither pillory nor tumbrel, the view was seized into the king's hands, and restored again for a fine of half a mark.^k His son, *William de Pateshull*, died without issue in 33 Edw. 3 (1359),^l and his lands and tenements in Grimescote, Higham, and 'Carsecoll' (probably Carswell in Greens Norton) valued at 100s. yearly, were included in the purparty of

Catherine, wife of Robert de Tudenham, his third sister and coheirress^m on whose decease in 7 Ric. 2 (1383) her manor of Grimescote, consisting of eight messuages and eight virgates of land, was found to be held of the priory of Dunstable; by service of furnishing the prior with men, horses, and hounds, twice in every year, so long as he remained at Grimescote, in going to, and returning from, his manor in Derbyshire.ⁿ The male line of the Tudenhams is exhibited under HEYFORD.^o The Pateshull estate, in Grimescote, extending into Higham and Poteote, is subsequently lost sight of for nearly a century, when it re-appears in 27 Hen. 8 (1535.6) under the description of the manors of Cold Higham, Grimescote, and Poteote, in the conveyance from *Sir Arthur Darcy* to *The King*, detailed under NORTON,^p and has accompanied that manor^q down to *George Henry* 4th duke of Grafton K.G. the present lord (1838).

HIGHAM and GRIMESCOTE were annexed to the honor of Grafton on its erection 33 Hen. 8 (1541), and are members of the sectional court held at Greens Norton.

Neither of the MANOR HOUSES are remaining.

THE VILLAGE is a short distance north of the Chester road, about five miles from Towcester, and seven from Daventry. Bridges states that 'it contains about five and forty houses, including thirty-two in the liberty of *Grimescote*, which is at present supposed to be a member of *Cold Higham*, tho' antiently they were names indifferently used for each other, and the township of *Cold Higham* now lies within the manor of *Grimescote*.' By the census of 1801, Higham (with its members) contained 51 houses and 271 inhabitants; by that of 1811, 55 houses and 282 inhabitants; by that of 1821, 70 houses and 314 inhabitants; and by that of 1831, 66 houses and 391 inhabitants. The annual quota of land tax for this parish is £90. 12s. 9½. at 4s. in the £. The estimated value of real property as assessed to the property tax of 10 per cent. for the year ending April 1815, amounted to £2495. The poor rates for the year ending Easter 1832, raised £423. 19s. 11½. at 3s. in the £. The wake follows the feast of St. Luke.

ADVOUSON. In the domesday survey a priest occurs in both the Moreton and Flandrensis or Wodhull fees, of which Higham was then compounded^r and it is therefore obvious that the lords of those fees were co-founders of the

^a Harl. MSS. 1885, fo. 19.

^b Cotton MSS. Vesp. EXXII. fo. 96.

^c Harl. MSS. 1885, fo. 37.

^d Augm. Off.

^e Ec. 7 Ric. 2 n. 77.

^f Harl. MSS. 4886, D. fo. 53, b.

^g Rot. Hund. North. 3 Edw. 1.

^h Harl. MSS. 4886, D. fo. 74, b.

ⁱ Cardigan MSS. Nom. Vill. p. 10.

^j Quo. Warr. 3. Edw. 3.

^k Ec. 33 Edw. 3, n. 40.

^l Rot. Orig. 33 Edw. 3, r. 1.

^m Ec. 7 Ric. 2, n. 77.

ⁿ Br. 1 p. 239.

^o Domesd. fo. 223 & 226, b.

^p Vide Pateshull.

^q Vide vol. 1, p. 186.

^r Vide p. 60.

^s Vide p. 61.

parish. Walter de Wahull, grandson of Flandrensis, in the reign of Henry II. gave his moiety of the church of Higham to the priory of Dunstable in Bedfordshire.^a The prior and convent retained possession of the great and impropriate tithes, but renounced or sold their alternate right of presentation, to the mesne lord of the manor of the Moreton fee—the co-patron—and the successive proprietors of this estate as detailed under Grimscoote manor* have enjoyed the patronage uninterruptedly from the presentation by sir Robert de Daventre, lord of the manor of Grimscoote in 1327, down to George William Richard, 5th earl of Pomfret, a minor, the present patron (1838).

IMPROPRIATE RECTORY. When prior Richard and the convent of Dunstable conveyed all their lands in Grimscoote and Higham to Simon de Pateshull, they expressly excepted the church of Hecham, and two virgates of land in the same vill, with the messuage, which were the dower or endowment of the church,^b or, more correctly, of *their* purparty of it. In the taxation of 1291 (20 Edw.1) the portion of the priory of Dunstable in the church of Higham was rated at £4. 6. s. *per ann.*;^c and at the ecclesiastical survey of 1535 (26 Hen.8) the part of the rectory of Cold Hygham appropriated to the priory was farmed at 40s. *per ann.* and the prior paid 3s. 9d. for synodals and procurations to the archdeacon of Northampton.^d After the dissolution, the tithes arising in "Cold Higham alias Coldingham, and the Grimscoote alias Greensted alias Grimestede," parcel of the late priory of Dunstable, were granted under the impropriate rectory of Pateshull to Richard Robson of London gent.^e and in 8 Car. (1632) were sold for £300 to William Dry of Milton, and William his son and heir apparent, by John Fortescue of Salden, Buckinghamshire, and Frances his wife, with warranty against his father sir Francis Fortescue deceased, and his grandfather sir John Fortescue deceased, and Alice his wife deceased, sometime wife of Richard Robson of London, gent. deceased, and Edward Anderson of the Inner Temple London, esq., and Thomas Bromley esq. sometime solicitor general to queen Elizabeth, and John Marriner of London, gent. deceased, and Catherine his wife deceased, sister of the said Richard Robson. From the Dry family these impropriate tithes passed through mesne conveyances to the late John Wakefield gent. of Potocote, to whom under the inclosure act of 1812, an allotment of 69a. 2r. 38p. of land was made in lieu of the great and impropriate tithes of two of the four yardlands [virgates] of glebe land, and of the tithes of twenty-two yardlands and three quarters, and of certain messuages, homesteads, and other ancient inclosures in Grimscoote, "which constitute the impropriate rectory Cold Higham with Grimscoote," and are doubtless co-ordinate with the original Flandrensis or Wodhull fee. The present lay impropriator is Thomas Bolding, of Great Linford, Buckinghamshire, esq. who married one of Mr. Wakefield's daughters.

THE RECTORY is in the deanry of Brackley. In the taxation of 1254 (38 Hen.3) the church of Higham, with the portion of the priory of Dunstable, was rated at 6½ marks (£4. 6. s.) *per ann.*^f and in that of 1291 (20 Edw.1) the portion of the priory of Dunstable, and the other portion, were each rated at £4. 6. s. *per ann.*^g The return of the prior's portion at the ecclesiastical survey of 1535 (26 Hen.8) has been already given; the other, or the rector's portion, was valued at £10. 6. s. *per ann.*, deducting 6s. 8d. for synodals and procurations to the archdeacon of Northampton.^h

The lay impropriator was entitled to the great tithes only of two yardlands of glebe; the freehold of the whole four yardlands of glebe, and the rectorial tithes of twenty-seven yardlands and a quarter out of the fifty yardlands of the open fields in Higham and Grimscoote, and of the hamlet of Potocote, belonged to the incumbent. The rectory now consists of 59a. 0r. 20p. of land, allotted by the commissioners of inclosure in lieu of the glebe, 104a. 3r. 14p. in lieu of the tithes of the open fields and old inclosures and homesteads in Higham and Grimscoote, and 90a. 3r. 33p. in lieu of the tithes of Potocote.

The parsonage house, as appears by a date-stone over one of the windows, was re-built, or greatly repaired, by the rector, *Thomas Baily*, in 1641. It is pleasantly situated north-east of the church, commanding a view extending northwards to the fatal field of Naseby.

RECTORS. *Hugh de Pateshull*, by Richard de Grimscoot. Lucas, chaplain, 1240.

Robert.

Simon de Staverton, chaplain, 24 Feb. 1284.

Reginald de Pateshille, subdeacon, 2 Mar. 1302.

John Blancfront, by sir Robert de Daventre, lord of the manor of Grimscoote, 14 May, 1327.

John Hawys, priest, by the king, 10 May, 1361.

John Forrester, of Towcester, priest, by John West, custos of the palace at Westminster, 9 Oct. 1381.

William Cranebone, clerk, 16 Feb. 1384.

Sir Richard Bayly of Roydon, priest, 25 Jan. 1387.

Robert Smyth, priest, by sir William Daventre, lord of Grimscoote, 11 Feb. 1391.

William Herford, clerk, 2 Oct. 1399.

John Olyver, by William de la Pole, and Margaret his wife, lord of the manor of Grymescoote, 28 May, 1408.

William Senan.

John Launey, by Margaret de la Pole, widow of William, 4 Nov. 1433.

Sir William Baker, priest, by Richard Empson, esq. by grant from William Langley, esq. 5 July, 1483. He was rector of Heyford from 1470.1. to 1483.4.

Thomas Heynes, chaplain, 20 Aug. 1513.

Sir William Clerke.

Sir William Marshall, chaplain, 26 Mar. 1525. He occurs in the valor of 1535, and has been previously noticed under Bodington.

Sir William Marche, rector (p'son) was buried here 2 Sept. 1558,^k and

Thomas Pesenall was presented by William Hicking, esq. of Greens Norton, by grant from sir John Fernor, and instituted 12 Feb. following. He was buried here 18 Apr. 1586,^k and

William Preston was inst. 22 July, 1586, on the presentation of the same patron, and was buried here 6 May, 1639.^k

Thomas Bayly was presented by Thomas Bayly of Rotherthorpe, yeoman, and inst. 4 May, 1639. He was buried here in 1673, and

^a Harl. MSS. 1885, fo. 19.
MSS. Nero D.1. fo. 179.

^b Ibid fo. 37.
^c Tax. Ecdl. p. 38.

^d Tax. Ecdl. p. 38.
^e Augm. off.

^f Augm. off.
^g Rot. Pat. 4 Jul. 6 Edw. p. 3.
^h Par. Reg.

ⁱ Cotton

^k Vide p. 255.

John Dobson, of Magd. coll. Oxf. B.D. was inst. 13 July, 1674, on the presentation of sir William Fernald, bart. who had previously given him the vicarage of Easton Neston, where a brief memoir of him has been introduced. He died in June, 1681, when

John Aylworth, of Magd. coll. Oxf. A.M. was presented by sir William Fernald, bart. and inst. 26 Nov. following. He was also vicar of Pateshull from 1683. He was buried here 22 Apr. 1729,^a and

Edward Cooke, of Merton or Corpus Christi coll. Oxf. A.M. vicar of Easton Neston, was inst. 8 May following, on the presentation of Thomas earl of Pomfret. He was buried at Easton 25 Oct. 1741, and was succeeded in both benefices by

John Nixon, of King's coll. Camb. A.M. who was presented also by Thomas earl of Pomfret, and inst. 23 Jan. following. His publications have been already noticed under Easton Neston, which he resigned in 1770, and was buried here 23 Apr. 1777.^a His successor

John Bishop, of Balliol coll. Oxf. B.D. 1781, resigning the vicarage of Easton Neston, was inst. 4 June, 1777, on the presentation of George earl of Pomfret. He had also the vicarage of Foxton, in Leicestershire. He was buried here 20 Jan. 1817, aged 77 years,^a and

William Henry Clarke, of Exeter coll. Oxf. A.M. was presented by William Clarke, of Milland House, Sussex, esq. p. h. v. and inst. 22 Jan. 1817.

THE REGISTERS commence in 1556. No entries occur between 1662 and 1682.

THE CHURCH, dedicated to St. Luke, is a small and gloomy edifice, and consists of a tower containing four bells, nave, south chapel, and chancel. The tower is of the thirteenth century, and has a ridged, or as it is locally termed, pack-saddle steeple. "The first, third, and fourth bells were made by *Newcombe*, of *Leicester*, in 1609, and the second by *Henry Bagley*, in 1663." There is only one window on the north side of the building. The tower is 11ft. 9in. long, by 9ft. 6in. wide; the nave 46ft. 6in. long, by 22ft. 10in. wide; the chapel 20ft. 5in. long, by 10ft. 4in. wide; and the chancel 21ft. 8in. long, by 12ft. 10in. wide. The interior is neatly pewed, and a gallery has recently been erected across the west end. The entrance to the chapel is under an open arch. The nave and chancel are of one pace. The north side of the chancel belongs to the lay impropriator, and the south side to the rector.



MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS.

NAVE. On slabs:

1. HERE lyeth the Body of
WILLIAM SHEED, Esq.
who had the Honour of
being a *Serjeant at Arms*
to His present Majesty
and the late King.

He was likewise a Steward
30 years to His Grace y^e
Duke of Grafton:
and always preserved an Honest
Character.
He was Bury'd July y^e 18th 1761
AGED 65 YEARS.

^a Par. Reg.
VOL. II.

^a Br. 1 p. 261.

2. Thomas Moulsoe gent. 1628.

SOUTH CHAPEL. I. Opposite the entrance to the chapel, under the window, is the wooden effigy of a cross-legged knight, on an alabaster altar tomb. His head rests on a double cushion, and his feet on a lion. He has a circular basinet, and his tunic is open at the knees. On the front of the tomb are ten blank shields in trefoil headed compartments. Over it is an ogee arch of several bold mouldings, in one of which a series of perforated balls is introduced. The figure is traditionally assigned to one of the lords of Potcote, but there is no clue to its identification.

CHANCEL. II. On the north wall is a neat marble tablet. Beneath the inscription, Arms. (Ar.) a fess engrailed between six billets (G) *Aylworth*: impaling, O. a fess chequy Ar. & Az. within a border Ern. *Steward*. On the pediment, crest of Steward, a stag Pp. gorged with a collar chequy Ar. & Az.

Hic jacet JOHANNES AYLWORTH A.M.:
Apud WELSBOURN in Com: War: Natus,
In Col: Mag: Oxon: eruditus,
Hujus Parochie per Quadraginta et
Septem Annos, Sedulus Pastor,
Vir probus.

Hic quoque jacet
Uxor ejus amanset amata
SUSANNA, uxor filiarum NICHOLAI STEWARD
de Pateshull Armigeri.
Mulier, omnibus Virtutibus Præclara.
Obierunt { Hic 18^o Ep^æ. 1729: æt. 77.
 { Illa 13^o Nov^æ. 1728: æt. 64.

III. North of the east window, on a rectangular marble tablet, surmounted by an urn,

SACRED
TO THE MEMORY OF
THE REVEREND JOHN BISHOP B.D.
THIRTY-NINE YEARS RECTOR OF THIS PARISH,
WHO DIED JAN^y XIIIth. MDCCCKVII;
ÆGED LXXVII YEARS.
ALSO OF

BENEFACTIONS (vide p. 263). **LEESON'S CHARITY.*** The sum of £1 yearly received under this charity for the poor of Cold Higham and Grimscoote, is distributed by the churchwardens among the most indigent inhabitants, in coats, with the rent of the poor's land.

POOR'S ALLOTMENT. The commissioners of inclosure, in lieu of the permission which the poor inhabitants of Cold Higham and Grimscoote had been indulged with, of cutting and taking furze and bushes from part of the heath, allotted 6a. 1r. 37p. of land to the rector and churchwardens for the time being, in trust, to let the same annually, or otherwise, at the best rent to be reasonably had, and apply the rents and profits in the purchase of fuel to be distributed at their discretion among the poor inhabitants of Higham and Grimscoote.

This allotment was not let as directed by the act, but the rector and churchwardens divided the land into small parcels for garden ground, giving one parcel to each individual who had exercised the privilege of cutting fuel on the heath, and the land has ever since been occupied in the same manner, each portion on the death of the occupier being given to, or divided among, other persons not already in possession of shares. In order to prevent a claim by the occupiers to the absolute ownership, the rector and churchwardens demand the payment of a small rent or acknowledgment from each, and the amount is added to Leeson's charity, and expended in fuel for the poor.

CHURCH LAND. Bridges says, 'there are some odd pieces of land given to the church, which are usually let for x^s yearly.' The commissioners of inclosure awarded 8a. 3r. 17p. for the church land, which is now let for £13. 10. *per ann.* and appropriated to the repairs of the church.

The commissioners also allotted 1a. 2r. 17p. for what is called the clerk's land, and which is held by the parish clerk for the time being.

ISABELLA HIS WIFE
WHO DIED APRIL IIIth. MDCCCVII;
ÆGED LXV YEARS.

IV. South of the east window, is a plain oval tablet. Arms. S. 5 plates in orle, on a chief Ar. a battle axe in fess. S. *Nixon*.

In
Memory of
the Revd. John Nixon A.M.
who had been Rector
of this Parish 35 years,
He died April 18th
1777
Æged 83.

V. On a small brass plate in the south wall,

S. M.
JULI XI. MDCCCV.
DEPOSITUM
EDWARDI NORRIS &c
CETERA QUÆRANT & IMITENTUR
POSTERI.

3. Martha Preston 1614.

4. Mary Wafern d. of John W. & Damris 28 Sept. 1683

5. Under the altar,

HERE LYETH THE
BODY OF THOMAS
BAILY DECEASED
RECTOR OF COLD
HIGHAM ANNO
DOM. 1673.

In the exterior wall, on the south side of the chancel, is a low monumental arch, under which is the chamfered lid of a stone coffin ornamented with a floriated cross.

The church yard is nearly circular, and thrown up higher than the surrounding ground. It is planted with lofty elms, visible as far as Bow Brickhill, in Buckinghamshire, to the south, and Naseby, to the north. The shaft of an ancient cross is still remaining on the south side of the church yard.

* Br. 1 p. 262.

* Vide AUTHOR p. 269.

GRIMSCOTE

forms the south-western portion of the parish. The lands are not now separable from Higham, and the name is only applied to the mill and the village. Grimscothe mill is supplied by a spring which rises within two or three furlongs. It formerly belonged to Parr, Marquis of Northampton, and was granted by King James I. to Edward Ferrers and Francis Philips.^a It is now the property of the earl of Pomfret.

THE VILLAGE abounds in abrupt inequalities of surface. It more than trebles the population of Higham, from which it is nearly a mile distant.

POTCOTE,

consisting of two old inclosed farms of about 650 acres, the property of George Henry duke of Grafton, K.G. lies principally within this parish, but partly in Greens Norton.* It contributes to the church and poor rates of both parishes, but has its separate highway rate. One of the houses is wholly in this parish, the other partly in Norton.

MANORIAL HISTORY. Potcote occurs in the hydarium of Hen. 2, as Potton, when *Johs de Dacentre* was certified to hold there a hide and a half and a small virgate;^b and in the Testa de Nevill, about 19 Hen. 3 (1235) William Fitzwarine, second husband of Agnes Wodhull, answered for half a fee in Potcote of the fee of Wodhull.^c Its subsequent history has been incorporated under Grimscothe manor in Higham.[†]

FOSTER'S BOOTH

^a was, as the name implies, no more at first than a hut or booth of one Foster, who was a poor countryman, and grew thence by little and little to a fair street of Inns, in like manner as *Market Harborough*, and some other Road-Towns that are now so considerable, had their first rise from only a single Inn.^d So says Morton; but tradition assigns its origin to the Forester's Booth, and points, in confirmation, to the rude hunting sketch in fresco, representative of the death of the stag, which, bearing date in "1637," has continued for two centuries to ornament the western wall of the George Inn.

This small hamlet stands on the Watling Street or Chester Road, between the two villages of Cold Higham and Pateshull; the houses on the south side of the road being in the former, and those on the north side in the latter parish. The earl of Pomfret holds his court here for the hundred of Towcester.

* Rot. Pat. 11 Feb. 7 Jac.

^b Cotton MSS. Vesp. E.xxiv. fo. 96.

^c Test. Nev. fo. 128.

^d Morton p. 27.

* Vide GREEN'S NORTON p. 69.

† Vide p. 285.

PATESHULL,

in domesday Pascelle, is in subsequent records variously written Patyschille, Pateshill, Pattishall, and Pattishull. The parish, with its dependencies, Astcote, Estcote, Darlscote or Descote, and about 150 acres in Foxley, contains about 2830 acres; of which about 380 acres belong to George William Richard earl of Pomfret, a minor, lord of the manor; about 440 acres to Thomas Howes, of Northampton, esq.; about 175 acres to Thomas Drayson, of Pateshull, esq.; about 150 acres (in Foxley) to the trustees of the Foxley charity; about 135 acres to George Henry duke of Grafton, K.G.; about 120 acres to Miss Anne Bradshaw, of Prior's Marston, Warwickshire; about 110 acres to Mr. John Perkins, of Pateshull; and nearly 100 acres each to Mr. William Faulkner, of Darlscote, and Mr. George Hitchcock, of Hinton by Woodford. The open fields of "Pattishall, with the hamlets of Eastcote, Astcote, and Darlscote," were inclosed by act of parliament, in 11 Geo. 3 (1771). The parish is bounded on the north and north east by Bugbrook, in Newbottle Grove hundred, from which it is divided by a rivulet called Far-brook, rising from springs in Farthingstone and Grimscoate, and falling into the river Nen at Hoar-stone meadow, in Nether Heyford; on the east by Gayton, from which it is separated by a brook supplied from springs in that lordship, and which, passing between Rothersthorpe and Kislingbury, joins the Nen below Upton mill; south-east by Tiffield; south west by Greens Norton, in Norton hundred; south by Caldecote in Towcester parish; and west by Cold Higham with Grimscoate.

The soil is various, but principally a strong grey loam on limestone; nearly a moiety of the lordship is in permanent pasture.

MANORIAL HISTORY. WODHULL FEE.* "Pascelle," in the Saxon era, was the freehold of *Levenot*, and rated at £10 yearly; but when received from the conqueror by *Walter Flandrensis*, who held it at the domesday survey, the value was reduced to 100s. It contained eight hides, of which two were in demesne. The arable land was twenty carucates; two were in demesne, with two servants and two maidens; twenty-two villeins and six bordars had twelve carucates; and six were waste or unaccounted for. There were two mills worth 32^d. yearly.^a

The possessions of *Levenot* in this county, and their distribution after the Norman conquest, are detailed under PLUMPTON.† In this list of the estates, extending into nearly twenty villages, bestowed on *Walter Flandrensis*, a clerical omission has rendered the passage obscure and apparently ungrammatical. A blank space should have been introduced between "and" and "in Cleley hundred," to denote that the name of the place is omitted in the survey. I subjoin the entry, to exercise the ingenuity of the future antiquary in appropriating it, having failed to discover a single tenure, mediate or immediate, under the barony of Wodhull, throughout that hundred.

"In Claile Hund." *Hugh* holds of *Walter Flandrensis* three hides and the fifth part of a hide. The arable land is eight carucates; two of which are in demesne, with a servant and a maiden; and seventeen villeins and five bordars have the remaining six. There are thirty-six acres of meadow; and a wood, three furlongs long, and three furlongs and a half and ten perches wide. It was valued at 40s. but now 60s. yearly.^a

WODHULL OR CHETWODE MANOR. All *Levenot's* Bedfordshire estates,^b except *Segenhoe* and *Silsoe* (which, however, passed subsequently to the Wodhulls), were assigned to *Walter Flandrensis*. As in the case of *Pinkney*,‡ the adoption of the head of his barony seems capricious, or at least at variance with pre-conceived probability; for, though *Pateshull* contained eight hides, and the barony was held by castle-guard to *Rockingham*, in this county, and *Langford*, in Bedfordshire, ten hides, yet *Wahull* or *Wodhull*, now *Odell*, in that county, with only half the number of hides, was selected for the honor.

The unauthorized or traditional conjecture advanced by *Dugdale* from *Glover's MSS.* respecting the division of fees between "the Lord of *Wahull*, and *Stephen* then Lord of *La Leic*,"^d has been controverted, and, I trust, satisfactorily elucidated under *CANONS ASHBY*.§ The descendants of *Flandrensis* assumed the local surname of *Wahull* or *Wodhull*, and *Pateshull* being their principal manor in this county, their pedigree would have been placed here, had it not been anticipated under *Thenford*,* where they were seated from the reign of *Henry VII.* to the extinction of the male line of their Norman ancestor on the demise of *Michael Wodhull*, esq. in 1816.

* Domesd. fo. 226 b.

† Ibid fo. 215. b.

‡ Ibid fo. 216.

§ Dugd. Bar. 1 p. 503.

* Vide THENFORD vol. 1 p. 711.

† Vide p. 95.

‡ Vide WEDON PINKNEY p. 105.

§ Vide p. 4.

[illegible]

* Mon. Ang. 2 p. 524.

² Ibid p. 885.

* Harl. MSS. 1883, fo. 19, &c.

⁴ *Id.*, Nig. 1 p. 291.

* Cotton MSS. Vesp. Exxij. fo. 96.

* Mon. Ang. 2 p. 524.

^b Ibid p. 885.

* Harl. MSS. 1885, fo.
p. 17. v. 2. l. 10. p. 2.

Rot. Fin.

3, m. 1. Rot.

1 Hen. 3, m. 4.

¹ Dugd. Bar. 1 p. 504, "Rot. P. 8 Ric. Be

414 Feb. 5. Hen. 3."

¹⁰ Test. Nev. fo. 1

* Rot. Orig. 23

3. Rot. Cl.

* Vincent MSS. "Fin. 2, Hen. 3."

1 Test. Nov. 69. 117

* Rot. Fin. Bedf.

En. 3. Esc. 3.

D-14 = 250

24 Hen. 3.

l. p. 195 & 202.

Ibid p. 223, 226, & 2

* Ibid p. 13.

SS. Claud. C. II. fo.

Fin. 34 Hen. 3, m. 6. Parl. Writs,
24 Edw. 1, n. 51.

^b Parl. Writs, vol.

52. * Cardigan

S. M. p. 74, & Collec

23. *Chama. St. L. 1814*

if your Majesty thinks meet.^{2a} With singular inconsistency, this certificate admits, or virtually implies, a dormant "right," yet rests its recommendation of the petitioner on "grace." The question at issue is too hastily conceded. Nonage, the troubles of the times, or absence on foreign service, may account for occasional omissions, but not for a constant withholding of writs from the heirs of the individual summoned. Here was only a solitary summons, in 25 Edw.1, and the house of lords has decided that a single writ of summons does not create an hereditary barony. The authorities whether this writ was a regular summons to parliament, because it was only directed to the temporal peers,³ clergy, no spiritual peers were summoned to this parliament.⁴ Sir Richard Chetwode, it is said, was offered a barony by patent, but considering it would be a renunciation of his right, declined the honor.

To return to Thomas baron Wadhull or Wodhull. He died in 32 Edw.1 (1303), seized (int. al.) of the manor of Pateshull, held of the barony of Wadhull, and of various subinfeudated fees and portions of fees in this county, specially enumerated in the inquisition, leaving *John de Wadhull* his son and heir, aged one year and seventeen weeks—the infant alluded to in the above certificate. He died in 10 Edw.3 (1336), and was succeeded by his son and heir, aged sixteen,⁵ who, as *sir John de Wodhull*, was summoned, with other Bedfordshire knights, in 19 Edw.3 (1345), to accompany the king with horse and arms in the expedition against France.⁶ The next year he was summoned to Sandwich, with his retainers properly armed with arrows, and thence to repair to the king at the siege of Calais.⁷ and the year following, he had a mandate to join the king and assist him against the congregated forces of the king of France.⁸ He died in 22 Edw.3 (1348),⁹ and his son and heir was the third *sir John de Wodhull* in lineal succession. On his decease in 41 Edw.3 (1367), he left two infant daughters and coheirresses, *Elizabeth*, aged three years, and *Eleanor*, aged two years,¹⁰ both of whom died during minority; and by inquisition, in 50 Edw.3 (1376), *Nicholas de Wodhull* brother of their grandfather, was found to be their heir.¹¹ The same year, Thomas de Reynes, and others, having been enfeoffed by the late John de Wodhull in 39 Edw.3 (1365), of the manors of Wodhull and Langford, in Bedfordshire, and of Pateshull, without licence,¹² gave the king £40 for licence of acquiring them,¹³ and on the determination of their trust, surrendered them to Nicholas. In 16 Ric.2 (1392), on the death of Isabella, wife of sir Gerard de Braybrooke, and widow of sir John de Wodhull, the manor of Pateshull juxta Towcester, which she held in dower, came into possession of sir Nicholas, then aged forty years;¹⁴ but, "having contracted debts to the value of eight hundred pounds sterling, he had an execution awarded against him in the tenth year of Henry IV. and this manor of Pateshull, with other parts of his estate, was, upon this occasion, given into the hands of his creditors till such time as satisfaction was made." Two years afterwards he died, leaving a son and heir, *Thomas de Wodhull*,¹⁵ usually styled baron Wodhull, whose great grandson, *Fulk Wodhull*, acquired *THENFORD* in marriage with Agnes Newenham.¹⁶ His grandson, *Anthony Wodhull*, styled also baron Wodhull, left an only daughter and heiress, *Agnes*,¹⁷ who inherited a considerable estate in Bedfordshire, Northamptonshire, Buckinghamshire, and Wiltshire, and who, by her husband, Richard Chetwode, esq. of WARKWORTH,¹⁸ had *sir Richard Chetwode*, whose claim to the barony of Wodhull, in the reign of James I. has been canvassed in a former page. Sir Richard, and Dorothy his wife, in 8 Car. (1633), sold his manor in Pateshull for £1013. 6s. 8d. to *Theodore Markes*, gent. whose two successors, son and grandson, were of the same names. Theodore Markes, the son, acquired the other manor in Pateshull, called Pateshull or Strangeway's manor; and Theodore Markes, the grandson, by will, in 1726, devised both manors, subject to certain legacies, in moieties to his sister, *Mary Atkins*, widow, and his brother-in-law, *John Theed*, gent. in fee; who, in 1730, together with their children (as given in the subjoined pedigree), in consideration of £6300, conveyed to the *rev. John Baron*, the manor of Pattishull, alias Pattishall, alias Pattshull, called Chetwode's manor, having formerly belonged to sir Richard Chetwode, and usually known by the name of the *Old Estate*, and which, at the death of the said Theodore Markes, in 1726, had been in the uninterrupted possession of Theodore Markes, his late father deceased, and of Theodore Markes, his late grandfather deceased, successively, for the space of one hundred years then last or thereabouts; and also the manor of Bowendhall, sometimes Strangeway's manor, otherwise called the manor of Pattishull, alias Patteshill, alias Pattishall, purchased by Theodore Markes, the father, from *Thomas Hones*, gent. and Elizabeth his wife.¹⁹

MARKES OF PATESHULL.

From Title Deeds and Parish Registers of Gayton* and Pateshull†

REV. JOHN MARKES, rector of Gayton, and vicar of Pateshull, bur * 17 Mar. 1653, sit. 81. — EMMA PILGRIM, mrr.† 29 June, 1689, bur * 3 Feb. 1631.

THEODORE MARKES, of Pateshull, gent. purchased Chetwode manor, in Pateshull, 8 Car. (1633) —

THEODORE MARKES, of Pateshull, esq. purchased Strangway's manor, in Pateshull, ob 1723 — MARY, d. of

THEODORE = ANNE YOUNG MARKES of est. of George Pateshull, Rye of Cal. esq. ob. s.p. 25 worth esq. mrr. Dec. bur† 1712, liv. 1721. 28 Dec. 1726.	2. JOHN MARKES bur† 6 Mar. 1653, dead s.p. 1726.	3. DANIEL MARKES bur† 23 Apr. 1668, dead s.p. 1726.	4. NATHANIEL MARKES bur† 24 May 1673, living 1712.	5. GEORGE MARKES bur† 2 June 1674, dead s.p. 1712.	MARY bur† 9 Nov. 1654. & coh. ELIZABETH bap.† 1 bap.† 29 Jan. Nov. 1655 1663 dead s.p. liv. 1730. 1726.	7. MARY ELIZABETH bap.† 1 Nov. 1655 1663 dead s.p. liv. 1730. 1726.	8. WILLIAM ELIZABETH bap.† 1 Nov. 1655 1663 dead s.p. liv. 1730. 1726.	9. BRIDGET ELIZABETH bap.† 1 Nov. 1655 1663 dead s.p. liv. 1730. 1726.	10. JOHN ELIZABETH bap.† 1 Nov. 1655 1663 dead s.p. liv. 1730. 1726.
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1. THEODORE AT- 2. WILLIAM AT- 3. GEORGE AT- MARY living 1730; w. of DEBORAH, mrr. 1726 dead 1730; ANNE & h. liv. 1730; w. of
KINS living 1730. KINS living 1730. KINS living 1730. Henry Cockkill living 1730. w. of Christopher Fox living 1730. George Pearne living 1730.

* Backes's Extinct Burroughs, 1 p. 438. † Nicolas's Synopsis, 1 p. 242, ac. † Parliamentary Writs, "Chronological Abstract, 1 p. 28, "Hemford p. 112." † Esc. 32 Edw. 1, n. 45. † Esc. 10 Edw. 3, n. 45. † Rot. Franc. 19 Edw. 3, m. 4. † Rot. Franc. 20 Edw. 3, p. 2, m. 6 & 7. † Rot. Franc. 21 Edw. 3, p. 1, m. 10. † Esc. 22 Edw. 3, n. 45. † Esc. 41 Edw. 3, n. 62, & 45 Edw. 3, n. 57. † Esc. 50 Edw. 3, n. 69. † Br. 1 p. 206. † Rot. Orig. 50 Edw. 3, 7, 46. † Esc. 16 Ric. 2, n. 158. † Br. 1 p. 266. † Esc. anno 12 Hen. IV. n. 16. † Esc. 12 Hen. 4, n. 16. † Esc. 34 Hen. 8, p. 2, n. 49. † Abstract of title.
* Vide vol. 1, p. 710. † Vide vol. 1, p. 740.

BARON AND DICKINSON OF PATESHULL.

From Title Deeds, and information of the Family.

..... BARON ¹⁸²¹			
GEORGE BARON of London esq. will dat. 9 Oct. 1685		2 JONATHAN BARON.....	
JOHN BARON living	ROBERT BARON liv.	EILEEN'S BARON liv.	CHRISTOPHER BARON liv.
1685 dead esp. 1740.	1685 dead esp. 1740.	1685 dead esp. 1740.	1685 dead esp. 1740.
1 REV. JOHN BARON of Paris Garden esq. purch. Patehall 1710. ob. 11 Mar. 1763		3 DEGOBY BARON.....	
		1821	
1 L. CAPT- ¹ ANNA MA- WEAVER RIA d. & coh. s- ANLEY, dead living 1785.	2 RICHARD DICKINSON-25 SARAH d. & coh. bap. s- of Warwick, Dicks- Herts St Alban's, Wood-st. L- & of Patehall esq. ob. 25 May 1720 m. 1729, ob. 1785, ob. & R. 1803.		
JOHN BARON DICKINSON-MARTHA d. of Ns- of Patehall esq. dead Patehall- Herts 30 Dec. 1729 m. 1729.		2 RICHARD DICKINSON-10 THOMAS SARAH ob. m. 1776 ob. s- of Patehall esq. ob. 16 Nov. 1811 bap. Warr. s- Feb. 1802; w. of Rev. ANNE, esq. Eschworth co. York & of Patehall esq. ob. 12 May 1730 m. 1730, ob. 1785, ob. & R. 1803.	
		2 MARY ANNE d. & coh. Rev. WILLIAM ATKINSON of Chesham co. Essex, living 1838.	

PATESHULL or STRANGEWAY'S MANOR originated in an early subinfeudation from the Wauhills. Amongst the feudatories of Walter de Wauhull, in 14 Hen.2 (1167) was *Ernulf de Pateshull*, who held the fifth part of a fee,³ probably father of *Simon de Pateshull*, a personage of considerable importance. He was sheriff of this county from the 6th of Richard to the 5th of John,⁴ and one of the justices in the king's court from the 7th of the former to the 16th of the latter reign.⁵ He was a noble, faithful man, and of great authority, according to Matthew of Westminster.⁶ Matthew Paris, who characterises him as honest and faithful, styles him justice of all the kingdom⁷ and Dugdale quoting him, has placed the name of Simon de Pateshull as chief justice of England under the year 1232 (11 Hen.3)⁸ but Paris only incidentally notices him in connection with his son Hugh de Pateshull; no date is given, and it appears that Walter, his son and successor, died the year before the office is assigned to his father. Simon was buried—when does not appear—in the chapter house of Pipewell abbey, and Walter was his son and heir.⁹ Walter was a justice itinerant in 3 Hen.3 (1218),¹ Hugh, another son, treasurer of the exchequer, 18 Hen.3 (1234);² and Martin de Pateshull, a contemporary, if not another son, a justice in the king's court, 2 Joh. (1200),³ and 3 Hen.3 (1215),⁴ and a justice itinerant from that year to 11 Hen.3 (1226)⁵—a singular accumulation of legal honors in the same family and generation. Hugh was subsequently raised to the bishopric of Coventry and Lichfield, and Martin to the deanry of St. Paul's.

In 16 Hen.3 (1232) a mandate was issued to the sheriff of Bedfordshire, to take into the king's hands the chattels of the late *Walter de Patehall* in his bailiwick, as well corn as other things, for debts due to the crown, but if the executors of the will of the said Walter gave security for the said debts, then the chattels to be surrendered to them.²

Simon de Pateshull, in 27 Hen.3 (1242), was found to hold the fourth of a fee in Pateshull of Salher de Wahuill ² in 52 Hen.3 (1267), acknowledged to owe 1000 marks (£666, 13. 4.) for the redemption of his lands in the counties of Northampton, Bedford, and Buckingham, from John Gifford, of Brimnesfeld, to whom the king had given them on their forfeiture by his adherence to the barons in the late rebellion.³ His son, *John de Pateshull*, was elected one of the representatives in parliament for the county of Bedford in 18 Edw.1 (1290),⁴ but died the same year; and his son, *Simon de Pateshull*, gave security for his relief, and did homage to the prior of Dunstable for the lands he held of him in Grimscothe and Pateshull.⁵ Simon was summoned in 24 Edw.1 (1296), to perform military service in person against the Scots.⁶ He died the same year, seised of the manor of Pateshull, held of John de Wahuill by service of the fourth of a fee, and other lands there, held of the prior of Dunstable, John de Ferrars, and the abbot of Cirencester; the manors of Rothersthorpe, Collingtree, and Milton, with lands in various other places, and was succeeded in them, and his other estates in the counties of Bedford, Hertford, Essex, Lincoln, and York, by his son, *John de Pateshull*, aged three years;⁷ whose wardship the king had by reason of eighteen geese which his father Simon used to render as petit

* Lib. Nig. 1 p. 201.

* Matth. Paris (ed. 1644) ad anno 1

¹ Rot. Pat. 18 Hen.3, m. 14, & Mat. Par.

16 Hen.3, m. 3. ° Test. Nev. fo. 117.

MSS. 4886, D fo. 74 b

^b Fuller's Worthies, &c.

* Rot. Fin. 7 Ric. & 15 Joh.

d. (Series p 10)

¹ Madox's Exchequer 2 p. 43.

SS. L. p. 188, "Placit. 52 Hen. 3."
 1. B. 24 Edw. 1. p. 66.

¹ Esc. 21 Edw. I, H. 66.

⁴ Matth. West.

S. A. A. A. p. 131.

* Parl. Writs vol. 1 p.

Pat. 3. Hen. 3.

* Bot. Fig.

' Harl.

sergeanty for a tenement held by him and his ancestors of the crown; but the prior of Dunstable had the rent due from Simon for Grimscote and Pateshull. Afterwards his mother had the latter manor as dower^a and accordingly she was certified in 9 Edw.2 (1315), by the name of Hawise de Pateshull, to be lady of Pateshull.^b In 17 Edw.2 (1324), *John de Pateshull* was returned by the sheriffs of Northamptonshire and Bedfordshire, pursuant to a writ tested at Westminster, as one of the knights summoned by general proclamation to attend the great council at Westminster^c; and in 16 Edw.3 (1342), was summoned to parliament,^d but never afterwards. In 19 Edw.3 (1345), he was summoned with other Bedfordshire knights, and his son, *William de Pateshull*, with other Northamptonshire knights, to accompany the king with horse and arms in the expedition against France;^e but William was never summoned to parliament; and only tinction limited to the individual summoned, and not a heritable dignity. Sir William Pateshull died without issue in 33 Edw.3 (1359), and *Sibilla*, wife of Roger de Beauchamp, aged forty years; *Alicia*, wife of Thomas Wake, of Blisworth, aged thirty-six years; and *Catherine*, wife of Robert de Tudenham, were sisters and coheirresses; and *Thomas*, son of Walter de Fauconberg, by his deceased wife *Matilda*, the other sister of William, aged sixteen years, was the fourth coheir.^f In the following year, the lands and tenements in Rothersthorpe, aged sixteen years, the lands and tenements in Pateshull, Avescote, Darlscote, Descote, Farthingho, Potecote, Litchborough, Maidford, Tiffield, Gayton, Ipwell, and Preston, valued at £15. 9. 6. *per ann.*; and lands and tenements in Cardington, in Bedfordshire, valued at £2. 19. 8. *per ann.* were assigned as the purparty of *Thomas de Fauconberg*, but, being in his minority, they remained in the hands of the king.^g This *Thomas de Fauconberg*, in 44 Edw.3 (1370), made a feoffment of the manors of Rothersthorpe and Pateshull, in this county, and several other manors in Lincolnshire, Suffolk, and Bedfordshire, to *Hugh de Westvyk* and *John Capon*; and by another deed in 47 Edw.3 (1373), released to them all his right and claim; after which he accompanied the king in his last expedition into France, and being charged with having declined from his allegiance, and deserted to the enemy, his lands were forfeited, and the manors of Rothersthorpe and Pateshull seised with the rest of his estate into the king's hands.^h But in 6 Ric.2 (1382), an inquisition was taken to enquire on what grounds the escheator had made the seizure, when sir John de Felton and others who had been enfeoffed by Capon prior to the forfeiture, denied that Fauconberg had traitorously adhered to the French, and the manors were restored to the feoffees on finding security for the payment of the issues and profits, if the king's right should be established.ⁱ This period never arrived, and Fauconberg being reinstated in his possessions, settled his Northamptonshire estate in 18 Ric.2 (1394), on his son, *John de Fauconberg*, and Joan his wife.^j John died in his father's lifetime without issue, and Joan, his widow, demised her interest to *Walter de Fauconberg*, son of Roger, who died issueless in 3 Hen.5 (1415), seised of the manors of Rothersthorpe and Pateshull.^k Joan, wife successively of Fauconberg, Bromflete, and Bowes, survived till 17 Hen.6 (1438) leaving sir William Bowes, her son and heir, aged twenty-four years; but the manors of Rothersthorpe and Pateshull devolved on Joan, sister of John, and daughter and heiress of Thomas de Fauconberg, then wife of sir William Nevill (younger son of Ralph, first earl of Westmoreland), and in her right, baron Fauconberg. She was born at Skelton castle, and baptised in the church there on the day her sister Isabel was married to sir John de Wilton. She made proof of her age of fifteen years in 10 Hen.5 (1422), whereupon Nevill, her husband, had livery of the lands of her inheritance.^l In the succeeding reign he was actively engaged in the French war, till being sent into Normandy to negotiate a peace, he was perfidiously seized, and imprisoned. Though of Lancastrian descent, he fought valiantly for the Yorkists at the battle of Towton, and, in recompence of his services, was, in 1 Edw.4 (1461), created earl of Kent.^m The following year he was appointed lord admiral of England,ⁿ and the king granted various castles and manors in different counties to him in tail male; but dying immediately afterwards without issue (male) the king transferred them to George, duke of Clarence.^o The countess died at the advanced age of eighty-three years, in 6 Hen.7 (1490), leaving sir James Strangeways, son of her daughter Elizabeth, aged thirty years, and *William Coniers, esq.* son of her daughter Alice, aged twenty-two years, her grandsons and coheirs,^p amongst whose descendants and representatives the barony of Fauconberg is still in abeyance.

PATESHULL, BARON PATESHULL; FAUCONBERG, BARON FAUCONBERG; AND NEVILL, EARL OF KENT.

From Dugdale's Baronage, with additions and corrections from Public Records and other Authorities.

Arms. PATESHULL. Argent, a fess sable between three crescents, gules.

FAUCONBERG. Argent, a lion rampant, azure.

INEVILL, EARL OF KENT. Gules, a saltire argent, a mullet sable for difference.

ERNULF DE PATESHULL, living 14 Hen.2 (1167).....

SIR SIMON DE PATESHULL, of Pateshull, & of Bletsoe co. Bedf. sheriff co. North. 6 Ric. to 5 Joh. a justice in the king's court.....
 7 Ric. to 16 Joh.; chief justice of England? bar. in Pipwell abb. a

^a Harl. MSS. 3856, D. fo. 83, b.

^b Cardigan MSS. "Nom. Vill." p. 10.

^c Parl. Writs, vol. 2 div. 2 p. 654, 655.

^d Rot. Claus.

16 Edw.3 m. 39.

^e Rot. Franc. 19 Edw.3 m. 4.

^f Esc. 33 Edw.3 n. 40.

^g Esc. 6 Ric.2 n. 180.

^h Esc. 17 Hen.6 n. 30.

ⁱ Esc. 3 Hen.5 n. 15.

^j Esc. 17 Hen.6 n. 30.

^k Rot. Pat. 1 Edw.4 p. 3 n. 192.

^l Ibid 2 Edw.4 p. 1 m. 7.

^m Ibid 2 Edw.4 p. 2 n. 7.

ⁿ Esc. 6 Hen.7 n. 21.

^o Dugd. Bar. 2 p. 4.

THE VILLAGE stands immediately north of the Roman Watling street or Chester road, about four miles from Towcester, and eight from Daventry. Bridges has omitted its population. By the census of 1801, Pateshull contained 134 inhabitants; and 551 inhabitants; by that of 1811, 139 houses and 631 inhabitants; by that of 1821, 161 houses and 695 inhabitants; and by that of 1831, 166 houses and 742 inhabitants. The annual quota of land tax for this parish is £189. 13s. 7d. at 4s. in the £. The estimated value of real property, as assessed to the property tax of 10 per cent. for the year ending April, 1815, amounted to £4,376. A small brook or ditch divides the parish. The western cote side, includes Eastcote and Darlscote. The poor rates, for the year ending Easter, 1832, for the Pateshull side, raised £183. 17s. 2d.; and for the Eastcote side, £293. 6s. 8d.; total, £477. 3s. 10d. at 5s. 9d. in the £. The wake follows holy cross day (Sept. 14th).

ADVOWSON. The Wauhulls disposed of the patronage of this church in moieties, each of which constituted a distinct benefice, and had its separate vicarage.

Simon de Wauhull, son of Walter Flandrensis, granted to Godstow abbey (near Oxford), a moiety of the church of Pateshull, free and quit from all secular service, for the redemption of the souls of himself, his wife, and his ancestors, with his two daughters, Mary and Cecily, to be received by the nuns there into the service of God;^a which grant is included in the inexpressible charter of King Stephen.^b Walter Wauhull confirmed to the abbey the moiety of the church of Pateshull, as his father gave it, with his two sisters, Mary and Cecily;^c and by another charter, granted to Dunstable priory, in Bedfordshire, a moiety—the other moiety—of the church of Pateshull, with three virgates and a half of land, and a moiety of the church of Higham, with all the land of Grimscoote of his fee, and released and quit-claimed to the priory all works, customs, and exactions which the ecclesynary tenants of the church of Pateshull or of Grimscoote had been accustomed to render him or his ancestors in summer, or winter, or any other time, so that the priory might possess his alms, free and quit of all earthly service.^d

The rectory of Pateshull, except the advowson of the vicarage, parcel of the late dissolved priory of Dunstable, in Bedfordshire, was granted in 6 Eliz. (1564) to Richard Robson, of London, gent.^e The rectory of Pateshull, and the advowson of the vicarage, with £7. 13s. 4d. per ann. parcel of the possessions of the late marquis of Northampton, and formerly parcel of the dissolved monastery of Godstow, in Oxfordshire, was granted 25 July, 5 Jac. (1607), to George Johnson, of London, merchant, and Edmund Bostock, of London, gent.^f; who, two days afterwards, conveyed them to John Steward, of Pateshull, esq., by whom they were devised by will, in 1629, to his nephew, George Steward, for life, remainder to his great nephew, Nicholas Steward, son of the said George, in fee.^g

In 1662, Anne Steward, widow of George Steward, esq., for a certain annuity for life, and other considerations, conveyed the Dunstable portion of the rectory of Pateshull to her eldest son, Nicholas Steward, esq., who thus became possessed of the entirety of the impropriate rectory, and the advowson of the Godstow vicarage. His son, Elmes Steward, esq., of COTTERSTOCK, by his will, in 1724, devised all his manors and real estate in trust for sale, and, after payment of his debts, the surplus to be disposed of to his wife, Elizabeth Steward. In 1733, the impropriate rectory of Pateshull (except the advowson of the Godstow vicarage), and lands in Greens Norton, Blakesley, Farthington, Pateshull, with its hamlets, and Gayton, were sold to Richard Backwell, esq., of Westminster,^h who subsequently resided at Great Billing, and was M.P. for Northampton from 1755 to 1761.

STEWART OF PATESHULL AND COTTERSTOCK.

From Heraldic Visitations, with additions from parish registers of Pateshull,^a and other Authorities.

Arms. Or, a fess chequy Argent and Azure within a border Ermine.

Crest. A stag Proper gorged with a collar chequy Argent and Azure.

JOHN STEWARD, of Pateshull, esq. mar.* 5 Nov. 1559; JANE, d. of Hugh Bigge, of Flete, = 1b. ANDREW CLARKE, ob. 1 Aug. bur.* 1 Aug. 1577.		2 JOHN STEWARD, of MARY OF MARK, bur.* 24 Apr. 1564, co. bar. 1588, DOROTHY ob. 24 Feb. bur.* 26 Feb. 1591, bur.* 17 May, 1597.	
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Peregrine Bertie, esq. of Low Layton, Essex, and Catherine, his wife, daughter and heiress of Richard Backwell, esq. sold the impropriate rectory of Pateshull in 1769 to Wickens Hodges, of Towcester, gent.; of whose representatives about one hundred and seventy-five acres were purchased in 1823 by Thomas Drayson, esq. and the residue belongs to Thomas Howes, esq. of Northampton.

RECTORY. The valuation of the rectory is omitted in the taxations of 1254 (38 Hen.3), and of 1291 (20 Edw.1); but at the ecclesiastical survey of 26 Hen.8 (1535), the rectory of Patyshall, belonging to Dunstable priory, was demised to Henry Baker for a term of years at £5. 13s. 4d. *per ann.*^a and the rectory of Pateshull, belonging to Godstow Abbey, was demised to John Foxley for a term of years at £5. 6s. 8d. *per ann.*^b The commissioners of inclosure allotted to Wickens Hodges, gent. the lay impropriator of both rectories, 271a. 3r. 18p. of land, in lieu of certain lands called the tithe pieces, and of all the great and small tithes or moduses whatsoever arising out of the open fields or ancient inclosures belonging to proprietors of the open fields in the parish of Pattishall, with the hamlets of Eastcote and Darlescote (exclusive of the hamlet of Astcote), discharged of all church levies except the repairs of the chancel of the parish church; but subject to the annual payment of £25. 16s. 6d. each to the two vicars and their successors; and annual tithe rents to the amount of £9. 5s. 10d. in lieu of tithes of homesteads and old inclosures belonging to persons not proprietors of open field land at the time of the inclosure.

THE ADVOWSON OF THE DUNSTABLE OR UPPER VICARAGE was reserved, as above stated, in the grant of the impropriate rectory, and still remains vested in the crown.

THE VICARAGE is in the deanry of Brackley. Hugh (Wells) bishop of Lincoln, with the assent of Roger (de Rolaveston) the dean, and the chapter, granted to the canons of Dunstable a yearly rent of 100s. to be converted to their own use in that moiety of the church of Pateshull which Roger de Luttreworth held as a perpetual benefice, consisting of the tithes of corn, and a rent of 7s. accruing from cottars holding of the church; saving to Nigel his vicarage in the said church, and a yearly pension of one mark which he had heretofore rendered to the said Roger to be applied to the repair of the church during the life of the said Nigel, and after his decease to be assigned in perpetual augmentation of the vicarage; the said canons to bear the charge of lodging the archdeacon, but the vicar to bear all the ordinary charges of the church as perpetual vicar.^b The same bishop, in the ninth year of his episcopacy (1218), with the assent of dean Roger, and the chapter, appropriated to the abbess and convent of Godstow the other moiety of the church of Pateshull, saving the vicarage assigned by them, consisting of land, meadow, a messuage, and the altarge of the said moiety, wherunto they admitted John de Mildecumb, chaplain, to be perpetual vicar, at the presentation of the abbess and convent, and enjoined them to present a fit chaplain for the vicarage whenever it should become vacant.^c Though the endowments of the two vicarages varied, yet, the vicars by a cyrograph confirmed under the seal of the abbot of Warden, in Bedfordshire, agreed that all the small tithes and oblations of the whole parish church of Pateshull, or of the tenants of the abbess of Godstow, or of the prior of Dunstable, or of the vicars, or of any others in the said parish, should be equally divided between the two vicars, saving the due portion of the dean of the church; and that Churchscot should also be equally divided between them, saving the tithe of garbs to the abbess and prior.^d

In the taxation of 1291 (20 Edw.1), Pateshull was returned as having two rectors—a misnomer for vicars—the Godstow and Dunstable portions being each rated at £6 *per ann.*^e In the ecclesiastical survey of 1535 (26 Hen.8), each vicarage was valued at £6. 13s. 4d. *per ann.* deducting 1s. 6d. each for synodals and procurations.^f The parliamentary commissioners, in 1655, certified that Pattishull had two moieties of a vicarage preservative, worth £45 *per ann.* each; that the patron of one moiety was Nicholas Steward, esq., and of the other, the lords commissioners of the great seal; and that Mr. Samuel Bolton, the incumbent, received the profits of both moieties, and discharged the cure.^g Each vicarage under the act 5 Anne (1707), was certified to be of the clear value of £70 *per ann.*

At the time of the inclosure, in 1771, this vicarage, called the UPPER VICARAGE, and the Godstow vicarage, called the NETHER VICARAGE, were each entitled to three yardlands of glebe, or thereabouts, and to one moiety or full half part of all the small or vicarial tithes of the parish of Pattishall, and hamlets of Eastcote, Astcote, and Darlescote. The commissioners allotted to the Upper Vicarage, 71a. 2r. 33p. of land (about four acres of which have been sold for redemption of the land tax, and the surplus vested in the funds), and to the Nether Vicarage 79a. 1r. 26p. of land, in lieu of the glebe lands; but the vicars and their predecessors having for many years past received £24 each or thereabouts, in lieu of the small tithes, the commissioners allotted the vicarial, as well as the rectorial tithes to the lay impropriators, and charged the lands awarded to Wickens Hodges, gent. the impropriator of Pattishall, Eastcote, and Darlescote, with a yearly rent of £25. 16s. 6d. to each of the two vicars and their successors; and the lands awarded to Mrs. Frances Bradshaw, widow, impropriatrix of Astcote, with a yearly rent of £9. 3s. 6d. to each of the two vicars, and their successors, in full satisfaction of all vicarial tithes whatsoever.

The Vicarage-house is in the village south of the church.

RECTORS. Three rectors occur prior to the ordination of the vicarages.

Turgis, clericus de Pateshull, by whom, I presume, is intended the rector, held the fifth part of a fee in Pateshull of Walter de Wauhull, in 14 Hen. 2 (1167),^h but whether in his own right, or in that of his church, is doubtful.

Walter de Bidon, is recited in the confirmatory grant of

the moiety of the church from Simon de Wauhull to Dunstable priory.ⁱ

Roger de Luttreworth, noticed in the endowment of the vicarage.

DUNSTABLE VICARS. *Nigel.*

Robert de Turkesey, chaplain, 1226.

Walter.

^a Acqm. Off.

^b Harl. MSS. 1885, fo. 66, b.

^c Cotton Charters XL. 32.

^d Br. MSS. E. p. 468.

^e Tax. Eccl. p. 38.

^f Acqm. Off.

^g Lambeth MSS. vol. 20, fo. 17.

^h Lib. Sig. vol. 1, p. 201.

ⁱ Harl. MSS. 1885, fo. 19.

Nicholas de Braseinton, chaplain, 30 May, 1285.

John de St. Alban, chaplain, 7 July, 1302.

Jordan.

John Rolte, of Ravensden, 24 Jan. 1312.

Simon de Edelesbury, priest, 1 June, 1317.

John Gilling, of Dunstaple, by Sir Lucas Saint Mary, deacon and nuncio of the apostolic see, 9 Dec. 1317.

Roland Jekkes, priest, 6 July, 1349.

John Atte Brook, priest, 6 Oct. 1367.

Hugh Payne, priest, 22 June, 1370.

Richard Hardyman, priest, 19 Dec. 1404.

Thomas Barnard, priest, 15 Feb. 1449.

Sir John Walker, priest, 20 Sept. 1499. He was rector of Hardwick 1500 to 1516, and vicar of Barton Comitiss from 1502 to 1524.

Sir Thomas Lave, priest, 17 June, 1501.

Sir Ranulph Cheshire, chaplain, 19 June, 1519.

Robert Symonds occurs 1535. On his resignation,

Robert Lovell was presented by the King and Queen, and instituted 6 Oct. 1555.

David Tonge was inst. 26 Jan. 1568, on the presentation of the Queen. *David Tonge*, formerly vicar, was buried here 11 April, 1616.*

John Leach was presented by the Queen, and inst. 18 June, 1573. On his resignation,

John Markes was inst. 3 July, 1577, on the presentation of the Queen. He obtained the rectory of Gayton in 1583, which he held till his death in 1633; but resigned this benefice, when

Gerontium or *Gerence James*, A.M. was presented by the King, and inst. 11 Dec. 1605. He has been already noticed under *Pauleysbury*, and will occur again under *Tiftield*. His resignation introduced

Richard Powell, who was inst. 19 Mar. 1608, on the presentation of the King. He was buried here 12 Dec. 1638,^b and

Theodore Beale, A.M. was presented by the King, and inst. 13 Mar. 1638.9. He retained this vicarage only a few months, and

John Burton, A.M. was inst. 12 Nov. 1639, on the presentation of the king. On his decease,

Alban Blaney, A.M. was presented by the King, and inst. 26 May, 1642.

Samuel Bolton held both vicarages in 1655.^c He was son of the celebrated puritan divine, Robert Bolton, of Broughton. He was educated at Lincoln college, Oxford, and was created D.D. 1661. After the restoration, he obtained the rectories of St. Peter le Poor, and St. Leonard, Foster Lane, London, and became one of the most popular preachers in the metropolis. He died 11 Feb. 1668, and was buried in Westminster Abbey. On his resignation,

Francis Gifford, A.M. was presented by the King, and

inst. 11 Feb. 1662, having been previously instituted to the Godstow vicarage. His resignation introduced

Charles Steward, of Magd. Hall, Oxf. A.M. who was inst. 1 Oct. 1690, on the presentation of the King and Queen; on whose resignation,

Thomas Topping was presented by the King, and inst. Apr. 1701. His successor,

Peter Belbin, was inst. 20 Mar. 1735, on the presentation of the king. He was succeeded by

Charles Addington, of Corpus Christi Coll. Camb. A.M. rector of Litchborough, who was presented by the King, and inst. 8 Nov. 1748. On his decease,

Robert Lucas was inst. 8 Mar. 1782, on the presentation of the King. He was a native of Northampton, and brother of Martin Lucas, esq., high sheriff of the county in 1799. He was educated at the Free Grammar School, at Northampton, from whence he proceeded to Trinity College, Cambridge, and graduated B.D. 1787, D.D. 1793. Whilst curate of Hardingstone, he published a sermon preached there 21 May, 1786, on the establishment of a Sunday School: 4to. 1786. This Sermon he re-printed the following year with two others on the same subject; the second, preached also at Hardingstone, and the third, at All Saints, Northampton; with an appendix, containing the rules of the Sunday School at Hardingstone; and a few hints on Parochial Clubs, for the benefit of the poor: 1787, 8vo. He also published two Assize Sermons preached in Worcester Cathedral, 1792, 8vo. A Sermon preached in Worcester Cathedral for the Severn Humane Society, 1793, 8vo. A Sermon preached in Worcester Cathedral at the Music Meeting, 1794, 8vo. Occasional sermons, 1809, 2 vols. 8vo. He devoted his leisure to the muses, and both his first and last publication was poetical. Homer's Hymn to Ceres, translated into English verse, with notes critical and illustrative; to which is prefixed a translation of the preface of the editor, David Ruhnkenius, 1781, 4to. Poems—including Boughton Green, three cantos; Ripple Rectory, &c. 1810, 8vo. In 1787 he was collated by the Bishop of Worcester to the rectory of Ripple in that county, which he held with this vicarage, and died there 1 Mar. 1812, in the sixty-fifth year of his age. His successor,

John Watts, of Queen's Coll. Camb. B.D. was inst. 6 May following, and in Sept. obtained the rectory of Colington. He died at Northampton, 2 July, 1818, and

John Stoddart, of Clare Hall, Camb. A.M. 1819, D.D. 1836, son of the late rev. John Stoddart, Master of the Free Grammar School, Northampton, was inst. 1 Aug. 1819. He has published a sermon preached at New Brentford, Middlesex, on the death of King George IV. 1830, 8vo. In 1837 he was instituted to the rectory of New Brentford.

ADVOWSON OF THE GODSTOW OR NETHER VICARAGE. In 1726, Mrs. Steward, widow of Elmes Steward, esq., Thomas Gwillim, esq., and Elizabeth, his wife, Elmes Spinckes, esq., and Jemimah, his wife, and Anne Steward, spinster, being in treaty with Roger Cave, esq., of EYDON, for the sale of the Steward estates in the parishes of Greens Norton, Blakesley, Farthingstone, Pateshull, and Gayton (except the advowson of the vicarage of Pateshull), entered into an agreement with Joseph Welch, of Pateshull, gent., that they would grant and legally convey the said advowson to him in fee, if he procured the said Mr. Cave to be a purchaser of the estates after the rate of twenty-four years' purchase, according to the rents. The negotiation failed, but Mr. Welch subsequently purchased the advowson, and his great grandson, the rev. Thomas Coleman Welch, is the present patron and incumbent.

THE VICARAGE is in the deanry of Brackley. By the ecclesiastical survey of 1535 (26 Hen.8), it appears that the

* Augm. Off.

^b Par. Reg.

^c Lambeth MSS. vol. 20.

abbess and convent of Godstow paid 20s. yearly to a deacon serving God in the church of Pateshull.^a The endowment of the vicarage—the different valuations in the successive ecclesiastical returns—and the present state of the vicarage, have been anticipated under the Dunstable vicarage.

The vicarage house stands at the eastern extremity of the village, and has been much improved by the present incumbent.

VICARS. *John de Mildecent*, chaplain, presented by the abbess and convent of Godstow, and instituted on the ordination of the vicarage, 1218.

William.

Thomas de Fretwell, chaplain, 1260.

Thomas de Quintin, chaplain, 28 June, 1284.

John de Ponte, of Bloxham, 22 Aug. 1302.

Robert de Wodhull, priest, 1330.

Robert May, priest, 5 Apr. 1346.

Henry Roger, of Pateshull, priest, 2 June, 1361.

Henry Wyllys.

Henry Bronde, priest, 6 Feb. 1395.

John Irueby, priest, 16 July, 1433.

Oliver Elton, priest, 1440.

William Dowson, priest, 30 Dec. 1440

John Biston.

Sir Thomas Langford, chaplain, 23 June, 1455.

William Sabine.

Sir John Gardiner, priest, 17 June, 1493.

Sir Robert Dodis.

Sir Henry Letherland, L.L.B. chaplain, 1514.

Mast. John Cryse, A.M. 10 Dec. 1529. In the interval from the dissolution of the religious houses, till the ad-vowson of the Godstow vicarage was granted out in 1607, both moieties being vested in the crown, were merged in one presentation, and only one vicar was instituted. In 1608, the year following the grant, *Gerontium* or *Gerence James*, the incumbent, resigned, and the crown presented Powell to the other moiety of the vicarage; but James retained this moiety seventeen years, when

William Paule, A.M. was presented by John Steward, esq. to the moiety of Pateshull vicarage, late parcel of the monastery of Godstow, and inst. 17 Feb. 1625, on the resignation of James. He was elevated to the see of Oxford in 1663, but retained this benefice only three years.

William Burkitt, A.M. being inst. 19 Dec. 1628, on the presentation of John Steward, esq. He resigned in 1633, on obtaining the rectory of Gayton, when

Miles Burkitt, A.M. was presented by George Steward, esq. and inst. 20 Mar. 1633.4. He was of Edmund Hall, Oxford, and ordained by the bishop of Oxford in 1630. From Pateshull he removed, prior to 1655, to Hitcham, in

Suffolk, but was dispossessed at the Restoration. Bishop Reynolds subsequently collated him to the united vicarages of Irstead and Netesheard, in Norfolk, but he had not been in possession three months, when he was ejected by the act of uniformity. He was father of William Burkitt, the celebrated commentator on the New Testament, who is said to have been born in Northamptonshire, and most probably in this village, though the imperfect register fails to record his baptism.

Samuel Bolton, noticed under the Dunstable vicarage, held this vicarage also in 1655. On his resignation,

Francis Gifford, A.M. was presented by Nicholas Steward, esq. and inst. 18 Mar. 1660. He had also the Dunstable vicarage from 1663, but resigned both, and

John Ayheverth, of Magd. Coll. Oxf. A.M. rector of Cold Highnam, was inst. 11 Nov. 1683, on the presentation of Nicholas Steward, esq. On his decease,

Charles Steward, of Magd. Hall, Oxf. A.M. vicar of the Dunstable vicarage, was presented by sir Gilbert Pickering, bart. (in trust), and inst. 14 Mar. 1729. His death introduced

John Welch, of John's Coll. Camb. A.M. who was inst. 11 Oct. 1737, on the presentation of Joseph Welch, gent. He published "The Baptist's Plain Funeral," a sermon, shewing infants proper subjects of baptism: 4to. Northampton, 1740. He died 16 May, 1742, aged sixty-nine years, and

Thomas Coleman Welch, of King's Coll. Camb. A.M. was presented by the bishop of Peterborough, by lapse, and inst. 18 Nov. following. From 1754 he held the rectory of Slapton with this vicarage, and was buried here 15 Feb. 1770,^b when

Christopher Moor, A.B. was presented to both benefices by Thomas Welch, of Pateshull, gent. and inst. 3 May following. He resigned, and the patron,

Thomas Welch, A.B. presented himself to both benefices, and was inst. 6 Dec. 1772. He died 29 Nov. 1815, when *Charles Rose*, of Lincoln Coll. Oxf. A.M. was presented to both benefices by Thomas Coleman Welch, esq. and inst. 12 Mar. 1816. On his cession, as already noticed under Slapton,^c the same patron,

Thomas Coleman Welch, of Queen's Coll. Camb. A.M. 1823, was inst. 4 Aug. 1820, on his own presentation.

THE REGISTERS of both vicarages are consolidated, and commence in 1556; but at the close of the seventeenth, and beginning of the eighteenth century, are very irregular and defective.

THE COMMUNION PLATE consists of a large, handsome flagon, chalice, and paten, with covers of beautiful work-manship, silver gilt, the gift of the Duchess Dudley in 1663; "with this proviso, that if any one of the church-wardens of Pattishall, or any other officer or inhabitant of the parish, shall convert the said plate to their own use, or to any other use, or imbezzle the same, or cause the same to be embezzled, then the said lady duchess Dudley, her heirs or executors, may require satisfaction of such person or persons so doing."^d

THE CHURCH, dedicated to the Holy Cross, stands at the north-east end of the village, on rising ground, and consists of a low tower containing five bells, nave, north and south aisles, south porch, chancel, and small vestry on the north side. "The first and second bells were made in 1631. The third was made by *Nercombe*, of *Leicester*, in 1609. On the fourth is inscribed, *Sana Rosa pulcata Mundi Maria vocata*, 1630; and on the fifth, in *Saxon* capitals, *Sancta Maria*;^e

^a Argum. Off. ^b Par. Reg.
^c Vide SLAPTON, p. 102.

^d Br. 1 p. 268.

The windows are uninteresting. The tower is 16ft. 2in. long, by 11ft. 5in. wide; the nave, 44ft. 6in. long, by 15ft. 10in. wide; the north aisle, 42ft. 5in. long, by 12ft. 10in. wide; the south aisle, 46ft. 10in. long, by 14ft. 8in. wide the chancel, 36ft. 9in. long, by 16ft. 2in. wide; and the vestuary, 21ft. long, by 7ft. 6in. wide. The interior is paved partly with brick and partly with stone. It has been recently pewed. There is a west gallery. The font is modern. The nave is divided from each aisle by three pointed arches on octangular pillars, with plain shallow capitals. The entrance to the chancel is under a plain Norman arch with imposts, but neither pillars nor piers. In the north wall is a trefoil-headed piscina, and over it "Johan Gillyng," in black letter characters; and near it a square locker. In the south wall, a small trefoil-headed piscina. In the south wall of the vestuary is a projecting piscina, and over it two very small lancet arches.

MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS.

NAVE. I. On a marble tablet, on the north wall, over one of the pillars:

Near
this Place are
deposited the Remains of
the Revd. THOMAS COLEMAN WELCH:
Rector of *Slapton*, and one of the Vicars
of this Parish.

After a most severe Illness which he bore
with great Resignation,
his Body returned unto the Earth, and
his Spirit unto God who gave it,
Feb. 11th, 1770
Aged 65.

Also near this Place, lie five Children viz.
three Sons and two Daughters;
and all died in their Infancy.

SLABS:

1. Theodore Markes 1723.

SOUTH AISLE. II. On a small tablet, against the west wall:

FOR THE MEMO-
RY OF THOMAS
YOUNG WHO
DEPARTED
THIS LIFE JAN-
-UARY 1st 12
1684.
HE FOUNDED
THE CHARITY
SCHOOL.

CHANCEL. III. In the south wall is a monumental arch and slab, but without inscription.

2. Here lieth the Body of the
Revd. Mr. *Chas. Steward* late
Vic. of this Place who Depart-
ed this Life Nov. 1st 28th 1735.
Also Mrs. *Eliz. Steward* Daugh-
ter of *Nicholas Steward Esq.*
by *Susanna* his Wife who
Departed this Life April 1st
14th 1746 Aged 68.
3. Near this Place lieth
1st Body of
Nicholas Steward Esq.

& *Susanna* his Wife.
Also *Deborah Steward*
Sister of 1st Above,
Nicholas Steward.
Also *Nicholas* son of
Nicholas & Susanna
Steward.

CHURCH YARD. Bridges records the following inscrip-
tions for the Steward family.* The first has been removed;
and the others are much defaced and nearly illegible.

In the church yard, at the east end of the chancel, is
engraven on a brass plate:

Gratissime Memorie Johan-
-nis Steward generosi et Janæ
uxoris ejus charissimorum pa-
rentum:

FELICES CINERES UTRISQUE PA-
RENTIS, HONOREM
HUNC VOBIS STATUERE FII POST
FUNERA NATI;
OFFICI MEMORES IEC ULTIMA
MUNERA VOBIS
SOLVERUNT, UNUMQUE PIS POS-
-UERUNT SEPULCHRUM;
UT QUEIS UNUS AMOR DEDIT UNA
VIVERE, SIC VOS
CONSOCIET TUMULUS VOSQUE U-
-NA CONTEGAT UNUS.
PARCITE CELICOLE, FELICES
PARCITE MANES
QUOD VOS TAM TENUI TUMULA-
-RUNT CESPITE NATI.
NICHOLAUS ET JOHANNES STEW-
-ARTI F.F. M.M. P.P.

On a tomb stone near adjoining:

Hic jacent corpora Johannis Steward Generosi
& Janæ uxoris ejus. Obiit ille 1st Augusti 1677
illa 26th Februarii 1591. Filii mæstissimi Ni-
-cholaus et Johannes P.P.P.P.

On the same stone:

Piæ Memorie
Nicolai Steward Generosi & Annæ uxoris
ejus, quorum ille obiit 2^o die Januarii 1628.
Illa vero 30 Aprilis 1615. Merens posuit Ri-
chard Steward L.L.D.—P.P.P.P.P.

BENEFACTIONS (vide p. 263). DUCHESS DUDLEY'S OR BIDFORD CHARITY.* By the decree of Chancery, in 1826, it was ordered that seven-tenths of the accumulated fund should be applied for the benefit of the several parishes named by the duchess. Of the dividends on £11,916. 13s. 8d. consols, thus appropriated, Pateshall receives £34. 0s. 10d. per ann.: and the annual portion of the rents of the Bidford estate due to this parish for the last year (1837), amounted to £13. 6s. 8d. exclusive of the same sum, by reason of there being no claim for the redemption of slaves.

* Br. 1 p. 269.

* Vide LITCHBOROUGH, vol. 1. p. 412, & BLAKESLEY, p. 27.

LADY CATHERINE LEVESON'S or FOXLEY CHARITY.* The parish of Pateshull or Pattishall is entitled to £40 *per ann.* viz.: £20 to be given to two widows, and £20 to place two poor boys apprentices to some honest calling; and, after payment of the other specific bequests and charities, to one-third of the surplus rents and profits of the estate for distribution among the poorest sort of the inhabitants of the parish by the minister, churchwardens, and overseers of the poor. This share of the overplus money for several years prior to 1825, was £70, amounting, with the original donation of £40, to £110 *per ann.* which was thus applied. To two poor widows, £15 each; to three other widows, £10 each; and to the master of the school, for teaching four poor children, £5 a year; the remainder received under the charity being appropriated as a fund for apprenticing. Out of the gross sums received during the five years, ending at Michaelmas, 1824, amounting to £550, there were paid, in addition to the widows' and schoolmaster's stipends, the sum of £132. 1s. 10d. for the expenses of apprenticing several boys with different premiums, leaving a balance in hand of £92. 18s. 2d.

The commissioners for inquiring concerning charities concluded their report by recommending that the overplus money should be distributed by the ministers, churchwardens, and overseers, amongst the poorest inhabitants in the Northamptonshire parishes of Litchborough, Blakesley, and Pateshull, according to the best of their discretion, and in such a way as not to be a substitution for parochial relief; as in their opinion the annuities paid to an additional number of widows in the parishes of Pateshull and Blakesley, out of the surplus applicable to those particular parishes, could not be maintained without injustice to the poorest inhabitants there, among whom, generally, the overplus was directed to be distributed.

Their suggestions have been adopted, and the surplus money for this parish now amounts to £90 *per ann.*

LEESON'S CHARITY.† Pateshull receives the sum of £1 *per ann.* from this charity.

MARKES'S CHARITY consists of two small contiguous closes, containing 2a. 1r. 11p. of land, now let for £3 *per ann.* One of the closes was devised for the poor by Mrs. Elizabeth Markes; and the other was purchased some years since with £40 bequeathed to the poor by Mr. Theodore Markes, and £10 advanced by Mr. Howes, of Northampton, and afterwards repaid out of the rents.

The sums annually arising from the Dudley, Leeson, and Markes charities, and the surplus money of the Leveson charity, are distributed, about Christmas, among the poor inhabitants by the vicar and churchwardens at the rate of about 14s. to each family, and a list is kept of the distribution.

CLEAVE'S CHARITY. Thomas Cleave, citizen of London, by indenture in 1647, conveyed three quarters of a yard-land in Pateshull, on trust, to permit the churchwardens and overseers of the poor of the town and parish of Pateshull to receive the rents, and provide thirteen penny loaves of good wheaten bread, of full weight, according to the price of corn in Northampton or Towcester markets, to be distributed every Lord's day in the forenoon after divine service or sermon ended, amongst thirteen of the poorer sort of people in the town or parish of Pateshull, who should come to the church weekly on the Lord's day, and there remain all the time of divine service and sermon both in the forenoon and afternoon, whereof, the parish clerk, for his pains in setting the bread duly and decently in the place appointed for the purpose, to be one. The commissioners of inclosure, in 1771, allotted, in lieu of the land mentioned in the deed, 7a. 1r. 38p. of land, now let for £5. 4s. *per ann.* The rent is expended in the purchase of bread, which is distributed at the church once every Sunday, among poor families of the parish, at the rate of a threepenny loaf to each.

YOUNG'S CHARITY AND SCHOOL. Thomas Young, by will, dated 31 Dec. 1684, devised to trustees (after the death of his wife) his three houses in Pateshull, a close called Flitwell hills in Eastcot, and his lands in the open fields of Pateshull, on trust, for putting out to school yearly for ever two boys in the parish of Pateshull, who were to be the same as were yearly set out apprentices by the gift of lady Leveson. The charity now consists of a school, dwelling-house and garden, with a close of 1r. 24p. adjoining, in the occupation of the schoolmaster, Claurchill Flitting hills, containing 2a. 2r. 34p., and an allotment by the commissioners for inclosure of 7a. 3r. 1p. let together for £12 *per ann.* In 1818 and 1819 the school was almost entirely rebuilt, and very considerable repairs done to the house; the expense being principally defrayed by the application of a balance in hand arising from money destined to put out apprentices under the Foxley charity. The master of the school, under the authority of the trustees, receives the rent of the lands from the tenants, and instructs six boys belonging to the parish appointed by the trustees, in reading, writing, and arithmetic, with other boys whose education is paid for by their parents. The master also receives £5 yearly from the Foxley charity, for which he teaches four other boys of the parish; and £5 yearly from Waite's trustees, for which he teaches two other boys of the parish, and supplies them with books and stationery.

WAITE'S CHARITY. William Waite, by will, dated 18 July, 1809, directed his two trustees and executors to invest £200 of his personal estate in the purchase of freehold lands in the county of Northampton, in or as near as might be to the parish of Pateshull, to be conveyed to their use, in trust, to pay the clear yearly rent to one of the most pious, infirm, aged, and necessitous widows of the parish of Pateshull, who (if not prevented by sickness or bodily infirmities) in most frequently attended public worship in the parish church, his nearest kindred and relations, being widows and in necessitous circumstances, whether living at or belonging to Pateshull or not, to be always preferred and entitled to the said charitable gift; and that until such purchase could be made, the said £200 should be placed at interest on government or real security, and the interest applied to the same uses. And he further directed his trustees and executors to

* Vide FOXLEY, p. 32 to 34.

† Vide ARTHUR p. 209.

invest £100 in the purchase of freehold lands as before directed, in trust, to pay such part of the clear yearly rent as they should think proper, to the master of the charity school in Pateshull, for teaching as many poor children, both boys and girls, of the parish, who should go to church on Sundays, and other days when service should be performed, in reading, writing, and arithmetic, as the trustees should appoint; the children of his kindred to be always preferred; and the residue to be laid out in books, and other articles requisite for instructing such poor children; and until such purchase could be made, the £100 to be placed out as before directed respecting the £200. And when either of his trustees should die, he directed the survivor to elect new trustees, not exceeding seven in number, and four to be resident in and owners and occupiers of lands in the parish of Pateshull; and the trustees to be filled up in like manner as often as reduced to three. The legacies are not yet invested in land.

The earl of Pomfret has two slips of land, amounting together to about two acres, adjoining the west side of the Chester road, subject to an annual payment of £3 to the minister, churchwardens, and overseers, for the benefit of the poor.

RICHARD STEWARD, L.L.D. third son of Nicholas Steward, esq. was born at Pateshull, and baptised there 3 Aug. 1595. At the age of fourteen he entered a commoner of Magdalen Hall, Oxford, graduated in civil law in 1613, and was elected a fellow of All Souls college. In 1628 he was installed prebendary of Worcester, and resigned in 1638. In 1629 he obtained the prebend of North Aulton, in Sarum, and was appointed chaplain in ordinary to his Majesty. In 1634 he was promoted to the deanry of Chichester, and the clerkship of the closet. In 1639 he succeeded sir Henry Wotton as provost of Eton college; and in 1641 he was admitted to the prebend of St. Pancras, in St. Paul's, and made dean of that cathedral. He was also dean of the chapel royal, and in 1645, on the translation of Williams bishop of Lincoln, was nominated to the deanry of Westminster, but never installed. Whilst he continued in the University he had the reputation of being a good poet and orator, and subsequently, of being a sound divine and eloquent preacher. Being dispossessed of his preferments for his attachment to the royal cause, he retired to Paris, where he became a zealous champion of the protestant cause, and, in conjunction with sir George Ratcliff, endeavoured to effect an accommodation between the Jansenists and the reformed party. He died at Paris in Nov. 1651, and King Charles II. who had taken refuge in France after the battle of Worcester, visited him twice during his last illness. He was interred in a cemetery in the suburbs of St. Germain which had been walled round and appropriated to the protestants. Dr. Steward is characterized by Lord Clarendon as a very honest and learned gentleman, and most conversant in that learning which vindicated the dignity and authority of the church, upon which his heart was most entirely set, not without some prejudice to those who thought there was any other object to be more carefully pursued. He was author of an answer to a letter written at Oxford, and superscribed to Dr. Sam. Turner, concerning the church and revenues thereof, 1647, 4to.; which afterwards appeared under the title of "A discourse of Episcopacy and Sacrilege by way of Letter, written 1646; 1683, 4to." Three Sermons, 1656 and 1658, 12mo. Catholic Divinity; or the most solid and sententious expressions of the primitive doctors of the Church, with other ecclesiastical and civil authors, 1657, 8vo. Trias Sacra; a second Ternary of Sermons, 1659, 12mo. The English case exactly set down by Hezekiah's Reformation, in a Court Sermon, at Paris, 1659, 8vo. Golden Remains, in three Sermons, 1661, 12mo. The old Puritan detected and defeated; or a brief Treatise, shewing how by the artifice of pulpit prayers, our Dissenters have at all times endeavoured to undermine the liturgy of the reformed Church of England. Together with the fault and danger of such prayers, whether vented extempore or forethought by a speaker: 1682, 4to. Judgment of a private prayer in public, relating to the orders of the Church of England.

ASTCOTE,

in domesday, Aviescote, and in early records, Avechescote and Avescote, lies in the western division or Pateshull side of the parish.

MANORIAL HISTORY. **WODHULL FEE.** At the domesday survey, *Gildre* held of Walter Flandrensis two hides in Aviescote. Walter himself had the sole or entire jurisdiction of half a hide, and the king of the remaining hide and a half. The arable land was five carucates; of which two were in demesne; and eight villeins with one bordar had two, leaving one waste or unaccounted for. The whole had been rated at 15s. yearly, but was then doubled in value.^a

MANOR. *Walter de Wadhull* gave Avescote, with other lands, to Henry, the son of Norgold, in free marriage with his daughter Beatrice,^b who, after his wife's death, conveyed it to *William de Albo Monasterio*; father of Reginald, the

^a Domesd. fo. 226, b.

^b Histon MSS.

^c Inq. ad q. d. 9 Edw. 2, m. 95.

founder of the chapel or chantry here. In 1278 (6 Edw.1), *Reginald de Clifford*, lord of Godeford, in Devonshire, granted to *Sir William Fitzwarin* his manor of Avescote, in Northamptonshire, with its pertinencies, for £300, with which he accommodated him in his urgent business [negotium], rendering 1d. yearly at St. Michael, for all manner of services, suits at court, exactions and demands, without re-claim or impediment from him or his heirs; and if they failed to deliver the said manor to him, they were held bound to repay him the said sum of £300 without delay, viz., at the feast of St. Michael, 1278; and in default, the bishops of Exeter, Salisbury, and Lincoln, for the time being, should and might compel them by ecclesiastical censures, and from day to day excommunicate them, till they made full satisfaction to him or his assigns as well of the principal debt as of damages and expenses. And he further granted, that in case of default, the sheriffs of the counties of Devon, Wilts, and Northampton, for the time being, should or might detain on their lands and tenements, and on all their goods, moveable and immovable; and for faithful observance, he bound his faith, and signed the present writing with the impression of his seal; the witnesses being, sir Robert le Denys, sir Thomas de Pyn, and Peter Fitzwarin, of the county of Devon; sir Philip Fitz Robert, and Simon de Hanynton, of the county of Northampton; Herbert de Stocke, and William de Basinge, of the county of Wilts; and Peter Butun, and John Pomeray, of the county of Berks.^a In 28 Edw.1 (1299), *William Fitzwarin*, of WILBY, died seised of the manor of Avescote, held of Reginald Clifford by the service of half a fee, leaving Alan, his son and heir, aged thirty-three years.^b In 9 Edw.2 (1315), *Peter Fitzwarin* was certified to be lord of Avescote.^c

In 16 Edw.3 (1342) Simon de Braybrook, rector of Cransley, and another feoffee, re-conveyed the manors of Wilby and Avescote to *Richard de Maundevill*, and Elizabeth his wife, in fee tail, remainder to heirs general of Richard;^d and in 27 Edw.3 (1353), a fine was levied of the manor of Avescote to Richard de Maundevill, and Alanora his wife.^e He died in 37 Edw.3 (1363), and was found to hold this manor of lord Clifford,^f who had the intermediate seignory; but on the death of *Alanora* his widow, in 49 Edw.3 (1375), it was found to be held of the heir of Walter de Wuhull, the paramount lord, by service of rendering a pair of spurs yearly on holy rood days.^g Amongst the knights fees belonging to the late Roger lord Clifford, in 13 Ric.2 (1389), was one fee in Avescote and Pateshull, held by Thomas, son and heir of sir Richard Mandevill,^h described in the inquisition on the death of his son, Thomas lord Clifford, in 15 Ric.2 (1392), as one fee in Avescote and Escote, in the parish of Pateshull, in the tenure of Thomas de Mandevill—or, more correctly—late in his tenure, for *Thomas Mandevill*, lord of Avescote, alienated the manor of Avescote, with its demesne lands and services, and a yearly rent of 16s. out of a messuage and virgate of land at Figeldon, Wiltshire, in 10 Ric.2 (1386), to

John Wydevill, of GRAFTON.^k His son, Thomas Wideville, esq. by his will, in 13 Hen.6 (1434), devised the hermitage of Grafton, with the manor of Avescote, and all lands and services in Avescote, Pateshull, Darlescote, and Escote, in the county of Northampton, and Figeldon, in Wiltshire, to the abbot of St. James, near Northampton, on certain conditions;* and in 21 Hen.6 (1442), his feoffees conveyed the said estates to abbot William and the convent of St. James, to hold according to the tenor and form of the will.^k The dispossession of the abbot by Anthony earl Rivers, and the restoration to the abbey under an order from king Richard III., have been detailed under GRAFTON HERMITAGE.[†]

This manor does not appear to have been separately granted out after the dissolution, but the lands, I apprehend, were included in the grant of lands in Pateshull and its members. In 1615, John Freeman, esq. of GREAT BILLING, died seised of a messuage and five yardlands in Pateshull, Ascote, Estcote, Calcott, and Darlescote, parcel of late abbey of St. James, and a messuage and two yardlands and a half in Pateshull and Ascote, parcel of the late abbey of Cirencester.^l

Englefield's manor extended also into Astcote.

THE VILLAGE is about a mile south of Pateshull. In the time of Bridges it contained 27 houses,^m now 34 houses.

CHAPEL. The prior and convent of Dunstable, and the abbess and convent of Godstow, rectors of the church of Pateshull, and the vicars, granted licence to Reginald de Monasterio, and his heirs, to build a chapel, and have a chantry therein, in his manor of Avescote, in the parish of Pateshull, saving the rights of the mother church; in consideration whereof, and as an indemnity, he granted in fee and perpetual alms to the prior and abbess, and their convents, a messuage, with croft, and certain lands which William Tille held of him in Edwinescote, and bound himself and his heirs to pay to the vicars of the church the tithes of hay, gardens, and dove-cotes, and all other reasonable small tithes; and that the chaplain of the chapel should swear fealty to the aforesaid parsons (or patrons) and vicars within fifteen days of his entry, and should faithfully and fully surrender to the vicars all the profits of the said parish in whatsoever manner they accrued; and in the name of profits accruing from strangers, he should pay on the first feast of the holy cross, one pound of incense, and on the second feast of the holy cross, another pound; and he, the said Reginald, and his heirs, on the four principal festivals, viz., on the feast of the nativity at high mass, on Easter day at high mass, on the feast of the invention of the holy cross at high mass, and on the feast of the dedication of the mother church, would, with their families who were then with them, visit the mother church; and their family who should live there, whether he or his heirs should be present or absent, should, as well in life as in death, receive all the rites of the parish, [marriage, christening, and burial], from the aforesaid church; and none of the parishioners of the church should be admitted to service in the chapel on festival days, nor should he or his heirs cause mass for the deceased or other

^a Hatton deeds.

^b Esc. 28 Edw.1, n. 11.

^c Cardigan MSS. Nom. Vill. p. 10.

^d Cotton Charters, xxxij. 27.

^e Hatton MSS. "Fin. 27 Edw. 3."

^f Esc. 37 Edw.3, n. 44.

^g Esc. 49 Edw.3, p. 2, n. 12.

^h Esc. 13 Ric.2, n. 14.

ⁱ Esc. 15 Ric.2, n. 17.

^j Ferrour evidences.

^k Esc. 13 Jac. p. 1, n. 157.

^l Br. 1 p. 269.

^m Vide GRAFTON, p. 162.

ⁿ Vide p. 171.

private services [peculiales] to be performed therein; nor should any thing else be done therein to the prejudice of the mother church. And the chapel should have no hanging bell, but should have a hand bell, and but one. And on the feast of the chapel, all the offerings should be divided between the vicars and the chaplain of the chapel. And he, the said Reginald, and his heirs, would be faithful to the said parsons to regard their honor, and to pay and preserve the tithes of garbs; and if in future time any prejudice should occur, it should be corrected by the archdeacon of Northampton, must be placed between 1220 and 1230, Reginald, for the souls of Emma his wife, and Reginald their son, and of William, son of Ranulph de Albo Monasterio his father, and Emma his mother, granted to the ampton for the time being.^a By a deed, which, being witnessed by Adam, abbot of St. James, and Robert de Mancester, archdeacon of Northampton, must be placed between 1220 and 1230, Reginald, for the souls of Emma his wife, and the chapel of St. Mary, within his court of Avechescote, in the parish of Pateshull, three virgates of his land in that vill, and a messuage, with croft and curtilage, which William le Waleys held, and 16s. which Robert de Fikelden, of Wiltshire, annually brought to the chapel, for the support of a clerk, to be presented by him and his heirs, to perform divine service on Sundays, Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, and have all oblations at the altar, except only half the oblations on the day of the assumption of the Virgin, and those which perchance came from the parishioners of Pateshull.^b

In 1326, *Robert de Daylington* was admitted to this chapel by Henry Burghersh, bishop of Lincoln, on the presentation of Peter Fitzwarin, then lord of the manor; but no other episcopal institution is recorded.

The mansion and chapel stood in the Bury field at the south entrance of the village. The remains of the desecrated chapel were converted into a barn, which was taken down within the memory of an old inhabitant.

THE IMPROPRIATE RECTORY of Astcote was granted out after the dissolution, and passed by mesne conveyances to Mrs. Frances Bradshaw, widow, to whom the commissioners of inclosure, in 1771, allotted 72a. 1r. 11p. of land in lieu of the great tithes, and also of the small tithes arising out of the hamlet of Astcote, subject to an annual payment of £9. 3s. 6d. to each pf the two vicars of Pateshull, in full satisfaction of the vicarial tithes; and further allotted to her about 50 acres for other lands, which may be presumed to have been those with which Reginald de Monasterio endowed his chapel.

ESTCOTE, or Eastcote, and in early records, Edwincote and Ednescote, forms, with Darlescote, the eastern division of the parish of Pateshull.

John, lord Wodhull, in 1 Edw.2 (1307), gave to John Sutton the messuage in Edwincote, in the parish of Pateshull, which his father, sir Thomas de Wodhull, had settled on Agnes de Upwike for life.^c The estate of the Pateshull family extended into Ednescote,^d and though not particularized in the purparty of Fauconberg,^e it is found in the Englefield inquisitions.^f Estcote is not, however, exclusively a member of the Pateshull or Englefield manor; another part of it bears a similar manorial relation to ASTCOTE.*

The village is about three quarters of a mile south-east of Pateshull. In the time of Bridges it contained 34 houses,^g now 39 houses.

DARLSCOTE, or Dalscote, and originally Derlescote, in conjunction with Estcote, forms the eastern division of the parish of Pateshull. The village is about a quarter of a mile east of Eastcote.

Darlscote has been always associated with the Pateshull estate,^h and is consequently reputed to be a member of the Englefield manor.

DESCOTE. In 33 Edw.3 (1359), sir William de Pateshull died seised of lands and tenements in Descote, held of the abbey of Cirencester.^b Not a single house now remains, but Descote grounds approach within two or three hundred yards of the north-east end of the village of Darlescote.

FOSTER'S BOOTH is partly within this parish.ⁱ

^a Harleian MSS. 1885, fo. 64, b.

n. 40.

^c Rot. Orig. 34 Edw.3, r. 2.

* Vide p. 305.

† Vide p. 296.

^b Br. MSS. E. p. 467.

^c Hatton MSS. "Ex chartis Ric. Chetwode."

^d Esc. 36 Hen.8, n. 77, & Esc. 9 Eliz. n. 52.

^e Br. 1, p. 269.

^f Esc. 33 Edw.3, n. 40.

^g Vide p. 291.

TIFFIELD,

in domesday, Tifelde, and in later records, Tiffeld, Tighfield, and Tithfield. The latter name suggests an obvious etymology, which, however, is not borne out by its earliest designation. The lordship contains about 1,245 acres, and was enclosed by act of parliament, 20 Geo. 3 (1780). The principal proprietors are, George William Richard, earl of Pomfret, a minor, who has about 203 acres; the rector, in right of his church, about 220 acres; Mr. Samuel & Mr. James Bates, of Daventry, about 215 acres; William Blake, of Danesbury, near Welwyn, Herts, esq., about 195 acres; and Mr. John Cook Brayfield, of Dodington, about 105 acres. It is bounded on the north by Gayton; east by Blisworth, in Wymerley hundred, and south east by Shutlanger, a hamlet to Stoke Bruern, in Cleley hundred; south by Easton Neston and Hulcote, in the same hundred, and south east by Caldecote, a hamlet to Towcester; and west by Greens Norton, in Norton hundred. The soil varies from a strong grey loam to a cold white clay; and about one-third is in permanent pasture. The inferior oolite of this lordship abounds with *Ostrea acuminata*, Min. Conch. pl. 135, f. 2, 3; *Terebratula concinna*, ibid. pl. 83, f. 6; *T. rostrata*, ibid. pl. 537, f. 1, 2; *T. media*, ibid. pl. 83, f. 5; *T. intermedia*, ibid. pl. 15, f. 8. The lower beds furnish interesting specimens of the genus *Cidaris*, displaying the mouth, and with the long and short spines, attached and detached.

MANORIAL HISTORY. MORETON FEE.* The two Saxon estates of which this lordship was composed were united under the earl of Moreton, but each gave rise to a distinct manor, and on the dismemberment of the Moreton fee the parauumony was divided.

HONOR OF CHESTER.* The Saxon freehold of *Biscopst and Leving* in "Tifelde," rated at 5s. yearly, was doubled in value at the domesday survey, when it was held by *Ralph*, under the earl of Moreton. It contained a hide and a half and the fifth of a hide. The arable land was four carucates; a villen had one carucat, and the remaining three were waste or unaccounted for.^a In the hydariun of Hen.2, *William de Pery* was certified to hold a hide and a half, and a small virgate in Tiffeld, of the fee of earl Hugh.^b This nobleman was doubtless Hugh Kevill, earl of Chester, whose ancestor, on the forfeiture of William earl of Moreton, obtained a portion of his estates; but neither he nor any of his descendants occur in any subsequent record in connection with Tiffeld.

ST. JOHN OF JERUSALEM MANOR. *Ralph*, the domesday mesne lord, was ancestor of the Chenduits,^c and most of his possessions were retained by his descendants, but *this*, it has been shewn, was alienated as early as the reign of Henry II. *William de Pirie* gave to God, and the blessed Mary, and the blessed John the baptist, and the blessed poor of the hospital of Jerusalem, a virgate of land in "Tiffeld."^d Though the greater part of the Pery lands were acquired by the hospital, yet the above is the only specific grant which I find recorded. In 3 Edw.3 (1329), the prior of the hospital, in plea to a *Quo Warranto*, substantiated his claim to view of frank pledge twice a year of his tenants in Tiffeld, at his court at Blakesley.^e Tiffeld was subsequently annexed by the hospitalers to their preceptory at Dingley, and in their court rolls of the 8th and 9th of Henry IV., in possession of H. H. H. Hungerford, esq., is associated with the sectional court leet held at Bradden.

In 24 Hen.8 (1532), William Braynes died seised of a messuage, thirty acres of land, nine acres of meadow, and twelve acres of pasture, in Tiffeld, held of the prior of St. John of Jerusalem, in England, at a reserved rent of 40d. *per annum*.^f Seven years afterwards the hospital was dissolved, with the other religious houses, and in 5 Edw.6 (1551), the demesne lands described as the manor of "Tythefeld alias Tyghfeld," and the advowson, were granted (int. al.) to

Sir Nicholas Throckmorton,^g of PAULERSPURY, whose son and heir, sir Arthur Throckmorton, settled Coggrave and Tiffeld manors and advowsons on *Elizabeth*, his third daughter and coheir, wife of Richard (Lennard) lord Dacre, of the South.^h

The *rev. William Gilbert*, by will, in 1693, devised the manor and advowson of Tiffeld to his son, the *rev. John Gilbert*, who, by will, in 1724, devised them to his wife Frances, in trust, for such of their children as were not married, and whose portions were unpaid, to be disposed of as she should think most advisable.ⁱ The testator left, at his death, a son, who afterwards died young, and six daughters; Frances, wife of *rev. Thomas Jackson*, and *Catherine*, wife of Thomas Hawkins, gent. who had received their portions on their respective marriage; *Susanna* died unmarried in the lifetime of her mother, who, by will, in 1749, devised all her real estate in Tiffeld to her executors, in trust, to sell, and apply the proceeds, after payment of certain specific legacies, equally amongst her three surviving daughters, Elizabeth, Anne, and Mary, and her grand-daughter, Frances Jackson, only child of her eldest daughter. Doubts having arisen on the construction of the will, Frances Cater (late Frances Jackson), in 1759, pursuant to an amicable arrangement, conveyed the manor in undivided third parts to the *rev. Bartholomew Keeling* and *Mary* his wife, *Anne Gilbert*, and Goodwin Wilson, gent. and *Elizabeth* his wife, which Mary, Anne, and Elizabeth were the three surviving daughters above mentioned; and in 1760 the entirety of the manor became vested in the *rev. Bartholomew Keeling*, by purchase of the other two shares.^j

* Domesd. fo. 223.

b Cotton MSS. Vesp. E.xij. fo. 96.

c Rot. penes H. H. H. Hungerford Arm.

d Quo Warr. 3 Edw.3.

e Esc. 24 Hen.8, n. 13.

f Rot. Pat. 7 Dec. 5 Edw.6, p. 3, m. 11.

g Abstract of title.

h Vide BURGESS, vol. 1, p. 120.

i Vide HARFOLK, vol. 1, p. 176.

j Vide MIDDLETON CHESHUT, vol. 1, p. 618.

k Vide

PAULERSPURY, p. 292.

TOWCESTER HUNDRED.

GILBERT OF TIFFIELD.

From Title Deeds and Parish Register of Tiffeld.*

REV. WILLIAM GILBERT, of Culworth, ob. at Tiffeld, 27 Aug. bur. at Culworth, 29 Aug. 1690.†

REV. WILLIAM GILBERT, rector of Tiffeld and vicar of Culworth, ob. 18 Jan. bur. at Culworth, 20 Jan. 1693.‡ Catherine d. of living 1730.

1. REV. JOHN GILBERT, rector of Tiffeld, ob. 19 Apr. bur.* 22 Apr. 1730, ob. 1 Nov. bur.* 4 Nov. 1749, et. 70.	FRANCES, d. of	CHARLES ANNE, bur. at Culworth, 23 June, 1692, ob. 2 Dec. 1756; w. of Simon Adams of Daventry, M.D. ob. 10 May, 1748, et. 80. †	Vide MORTON PINKNEY, p. 52.				
1. WILLIAM GILBERT bur.* 27 June, 1701, ob. 31 Aug. bur.* 2 Sept. 1701.	1. FRANCES, d. & coh. bur.* 14 Apr. 1703, mar.* 9 June, 1728, ob. v. m.; w. of rev. Thomas Jackson.	2. CATHERINE d. & coh. bur.* 14 Jan. 1704, mar.* 12 Jan. 1724, ob. 13 Dec. 1728, et. 34; w. of Thomas Hawkins, of Greens Norton, ob. at Norton 31 Mar. 1749.	3. ELIZABETH, d. & coh. bur.* 10 Sept. 1704, mar.* 2 Apr. 1741, living ob. 11 Oct. 1759, dead 1779; w. of Goodwin Tice, son, gent. of Towcester, living 1759.	4. SUSANNA, d. & coh. bur.* 8 Nov. 1711, ob. 13 July, 1767; w. of rev. Bartholomew Keeling, rector of Tiffeld, purchased Tiffeld manor, ob. 5 Dec. bur.* 9 1784, et. 71.	5. ANNE d. & coh. bur.* 28 June, 1713, ob. s. p. 13 July, 1750, sold Tiffeld advowson, 1780, ob. 21 May, bur.* 24 May, 1784, et. 71.	6. MARY, d. & coh. bur.* 28 June, 1713, ob. s. p. 13 July, 1750, sold Tiffeld advowson, 1780, ob. 21 May, bur.* 24 May, 1784, et. 71.	Dec. 1778, et. 63.

1 h. CATER, FRANCES, d. & h. = 2 h. RICHARD PAYNE, gent.

gent. living 1759. A dead 1779. oc. mar. 1760.

FRANCES, only child, ob. 1 Apr. 1742, et. 17.

The rev. Bartholomew Keeling having survived his wife, who died without issue, devised the manor of Tiffeld by will, in 1778, to the rev. *Brook Bridges*, rector of Oringbury, for life, remainder to Margaretta Bridges, his youngest daughter, and Elizabeth Westley, daughter of Shadrach Westley, gent., and the survivor, and the heirs of the survivor. In 1805, Samuel Raymond, esq. of Maldon, Essex, and Margaretta his wife, late *Margaretta Bridges*, conveyed their right in a moiety of the manor to Thomas Hill, gent., and Elizabeth his wife, late *Elizabeth Westley*, who, thus becoming possessed of the whole manor, sold it, in 1823, to *George*, 3d earl of Pomfret, from whom it has accompanied EASTON NESTON* to *George Richard William*, 5th earl of Pomfret, a minor, the present lord (1838).

MORETON FEE.† HONOR OF AQUILA.‡ The Saxon freehold of *Levin*, in "Tifelde," was in the soke of Towcester, and at the domesday survey was held by *William*, under the earl of Moreton. It contained half a hide and the fifth of a hide. The arable land was a carucate and a half, of which a villein had one carucate. There were seven acres of wood. The whole had been rated at 5s. yearly, but was then valued at 10s. the same amount as the other estate, though a whole hide less in quantity.^b In the hydarium of Hen.2, the quantity rather exceeds the other estate, being a hide and a half and two small virgates in tenure of *Walter de Furtho*, and seven small virgates in tenure of *William de Keynes*.^c

The paragonage on the dismemberment of the Moreton fee, was transferred to the honor of Aquila, but the above portion, retained by William de Keynes, the descendant of *William*, the domesday mesne lord,^d and which was, early in the next reign, subinfeudated to Revell, was held of the fee or barony of Keynes, of GRETWORK.‖

NORTHAMPTON HOSPITAL MANOR. In 3 Ric. (1191), *Robert Revel*¶ owed £100 for seisin of his lands in Cosgrave, Puxley, "Tiffeld," and Watford;^g and in the Testa de Nevill, about 19 Hen.3 (1235), *Roger Revel* answered for one small fee in "Tiffeld," Puxley, Cosgrave, and Buckley, of the five small fees of Moreton which Richard Keynes then held of the king in capite;^h but in the inquisition, on the death of Edmund earl of Lancaster and Leicester, in 25 Edw.1 (1297), these five fees were found to be held by sir Thomas Leuknore—the representative of Keynes—of the earl;ⁱ and consequently are parcel of the duchy of Lancaster. In another part of the Testa de Nevill, which may be placed about 25 Hen.3 (1240), the master of the hospital of St. John in Northampton, and Alan de Tiffeud, were certified to hold one small fee in "Tiffeld," with a virgate and a half of land which Walter de Fortho holds in Cosgrave of the honor of Aquila.^f In 12 Edw.1 (1283), it was found by inquisition *ad quod dampnum*, that it would not be to the injury of the king, if the master and brethren of the hospital of St. John were to receive and hold in fee a messuage and eighty acres of land in Tiffeld, which Geoffrey, son of Alan de Tiffeld, and Ralph de Foxton proposed to settle on them in frank-almoyn;^j which eighty acres were held by the said master and brethren of St. John's hospital; sixty-four of them of the fee of *Hugh Ryvell*, which fee was in their possession, and the remaining sixteen of *Roger de Brunese*, who held them of *John de Pateshull*, and the said John of Earl *Bigod*, to whom they belonged by right of ancient conquest;^k and accordingly they had leave to accept of the said donations. In 31 Edw.1 (1302), Emma, widow of William le Feore, recovered seisin in the king's court at York, against the master of the hospital of St. John at Northampton, of the third part of seven roods of land in Tiffeld, near Towcester—a property too insignificant to be the subject of distant legal contest, except from a love of litigation or of personal triumph.

In 9 Edw.2 (1315), the master of St. John's hospital, Northampton, was returned lord of Tiffeld,^l and in 20 Edw.3 (1346), on levying the aid for knighting the king's son, the master of this hospital paid 40s. for a small fee in Tiffeld of the honor of Aquila, and 13s. 4d. jointly with *William Ryvel*, for the third part of a fee in Cosgrave, Puxley, and "Tyfeld," of the fee of Keynes.¹

In the ecclesiastical survey of 1535 (26 Hen.8), the possessions of this hospital in "Tyfield" and Blisworth were valued at £11. 13. 0½d. per ann., deducting £1. 13s. 4d. to sir James Strangeways for lands in Thorp and Tyfield, and 6s. 8d. to the heir of Furtho for land in Tyfield.^m In 29 Hen.8, Richard Birdsall, master of St. John's hospital, Northampton, alienated the lands and wood belonging to the hospital in Tiffeld and Blisworth, to *Edmund Knightley*,** sergeant at law, in fee; who, as sir Edmund Knightley, conveyed this estate by the description of the manor of "Tyghfeld" (int. al.) to

* Abstract of Title.

b Domesd. fo. 223, b.

c Cotton MSS. Vesp. Exilii, fo. 96.

d Rot. Pip. North. 3 Ric.

e Test.

Nev. fo. 123.

f Esc. 25 Edw.1, n. 51.

g Test. Nev. fo. 109.

h Esc. 12 Edw.1, n. 53, b.

i Cardigan MSS. "Nom. Vill." p. 10.

j Br. 1 p. 271, "Rot. Class.

k Isam MSS. No. 38, "Comp.

anno 12 Edw.1, m. 1.

l Rot. Orig. 31 Edw.1, r. 24.

m Augm. Off.

Walt. Paries." p. 198 & 199.

n Augm. Off.

o Vide BURGHOGH, vol. 1, p. 120.

p Vide PRESTON CAFES, vol. 1, p. 431.

q Vide DORFORD, vol. 1, p. 350.

r Vide vol. 1, p. 144.

s Vide BUCKLEY.

t Vide FAWLEY, vol. 1, p. 282.

The King, in 34 Hen.8 (1542), in exchange for the manors of Badby and Newnham.^a This estate remained in the crown till 25 Car.2 (1673), when it was included in the reversionary grant of GRAFTON,* in trust, for Henry earl of Easton,^b afterwards duke of Grafton. This estate now consists of only about fifty acres. Many of the original hospital lands were doubtless granted out at an early period, on small quit rents, and cannot now be traced.

ST. JAMES'S ABBEY, near Northampton, had a virgate of land in Tiffeld, of the gift of Alan, son of Alan de Tiffeld; but abbot Thomas released it to William, brother of Alan.^c

TIFFIELD was annexed to the honor of Grafton on its erection in 33 Hen.8 (1541), and is a member of the court held at Blisworth.

THE VILLAGE stands in a low bottom about two miles from Towcester. By the census of 1801, it contained 29 houses and 120 inhabitants; by that of 1811, 31 houses and 141 inhabitants; by that of 1821, 28 houses and 127 inhabitants; and by that of 1831, 30 houses and 131 inhabitants. The annual quota of land tax for this parish is £62. 13s. 5½d. at 4s. in the £. The estimated value of real property, as assessed to the property tax of 10 per cent. for the year ending April, 1815, amounted to £1,286. The poor's rates for the year ending Easter, 1832, raised £59; at 1s. 6d. in the £. The wake follows the feast of St. John.

THE ADVOWSON was given, but by whom is not known, to the prior of the hospital of St. John of Jerusalem; and, after the dissolution, was granted to sir Nicholas Throckmorton,^d and passed with the manor to Lennard, lord Dacre.^e

In 1673, Robert Clerke, esq. of BUCKNY, in consideration of £120, sold the advowson of "Tighfeild, alias Tithfeild," to the rev. William Gilbert, of Culworth,^f whose son, the rev. John Gilbert, by will, in 1724, devised it to Frances his wife, under certain trusts for the benefit of his unmarried daughters; the last survivor of whom, Anne Gilbert, conveyed it in 1780 to the trustees of the late Gilbert Flesher, of Towcester, gent., from whom it passed to his eldest son, the rev. John Thomas Flesher, father of the rev. John Thomas Flesher, the present patron and incumbent (1838).

THE RECTORY is in the deanry of Brackley. In the taxations of 1254 (38 Hen.3),^g and of 1291 (20 Edw.1),^h it was valued at 9 marks (£6 per ann.; and in the ecclesiastical survey of 1535 (26 Hen.8), at £10 per ann. deducting 10s. 7d. for synodals and procurations to the archdeacon of Northampton.ⁱ The parliamentary commissioners in 1655, certified it to be a parsonage presentative, worth £60 per ann. in the patronage of Lord Dacre; and that Mr. William Boucher, the incumbent, received the profits, and discharged the cure.^j The rectory now consists of 220a. 3r. 36p. of land, allotted by the commissioners of inclosure in lieu of the glebe and the tithes of the open fields, and of the old inclosures of such persons as had open field lands sufficient to exonerate them; and a rate or rent-charge amounting to £2. 17s. 5d. in lieu of the tithes of 43a. 1r. 10p. of old inclosure.

RECTORS. *John de Neyle*, by the prior of the hospital of St. John of Jerusalem.

John de Dalerby, chaplain, 2 Nov. 1304.

Robert de Cunesby, chaplain, 10 Apr. 1312.

John de Barwell, priest, 26 Feb. 1314.

William de Stokes, acolyte, 29 Apr. 1315.

John de Hugelley, clerk, 21 Apr. 1361, already noticed under Cosgrave.

John Hamper, priest, 5 Dec. 1361.

Simon Godfrey, priest, 21 May, 1366.

William de Rowndon, priest, 17 Mar. 1370, previously noticed under Stoke Bruern.

Peter Mersk, priest, 5 Apr. 1387.

Mast. Thomas Fitzjohan.

John Goldpyngge, priest, 29 Sept. 1391.

Sir William Sualleyve, priest, vicar of Ashby Ledgers, 10 May, 1406.

John Eshton, priest, 15 Feb. 1407.

John Oteway, priest, 18 July, 1409.

John Smith, alias *Dene*, priest, 16 Oct. 1415. He was vicar of Blakesley from 1417 to 1421.

John Osmondston.

Sir Robert Proctor, priest, 8 Aug. 1464. He was vicar of Naseby from 1451 to 1455.

Sir Robert Hawley, A.M. 16 Aug. 1487.

William Tonge, clerk, 19 May, 1488. He was rector of a moiety of Clipston 1490 to 1491, and vicar of Gullsborough 1501.

Mast. Thomas Dalby, priest, 10 Feb. 1490. He was

vicar of Gullsborough from 1499 to 1501.

Mast. Thomas Russell, A.M. 30 May, 1526. His other preferments in this county will be found under Cosgrave.

Sir Richard Lockwood, chaplain, 19 Sept. 1527. He was rector of Dingley from 1530 to 1545. He died in 1548, leaving a son, Richard Lockwood, who had property in Gayton and Tiffeld, and was the immediate ancestor of the Lockwoods, of Dewes Hall, Essex.^k

John Benet occurs rector, 1535.^l He was vicar of Earls Barton from 1529 to 1530.

John Lynell, clerk, vicar of Easton Neston, was presented by the king, and inst. 16 Sept. 1545. He was buried here 19 May, 1575,^m and

Stephen Johnson was inst. 13 Aug. following, on the presentation of Adrian Stokes, esq. in right of Jane, his wife (widow of sir Nicholas Throckmorton).

William Emery, buried here 2 Feb. 1616,ⁿ and

Gerontium, or *Gerence James*, A.M. vicar of Pateshall, was presented by sir Arthur Throckmorton, and inst. 18 Mar. following, and again 23 May, 1628, on the presentation of the king, by lapse. He was buried here 7 Jan. 1645,^o but had resigned this benefice thirteen years, and

William Buncher, or *Boucher*, A.B. was presented by the king, by wardship of Francis, lord Dacre, and inst. 22 June, 1632. "William Boucher, an ancient minister of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, died in the seventy ninth year of his age, and was buried 5 May, 1686,"^p when, the patron,

William Gilbert, of St. John's coll. Camb. A.M. vicar of

^a Pat. 25 Apr. 34 Hen.8, p. 1.

^b title deeds.

^c Cotton MSS. Nero D x. fo. 179.

^d Burke's Commissioners, vol. 4, p. 81.

^e Vide GRAFTON REGIS, p. 169.

^f Pat. 21 Jan. 25 Car.2, p. 8, m. 8.

^g Tax. Eccl. p. 38.

^h Augm. off.

ⁱ Pat. Reg.

^j Vide p. 307.

^k Former evidences, and Dr. MSS. E. p. 409.

^l Augm. Off.

^m Lambeth MSS. vol. 20, fo. 17.

ⁿ Fisher

^o Lambeth MSS. vol. 20, fo. 17.

Culworth, was presented by Samuel Trist, of Culworth, Esq. and inst. 10 June following. He was buried at Culworth 20 Jan. 1693-4,^a and

Richard Vesey, of Magd. coll. Oxf. A.M. was inst. 23 May following, on the presentation of Samuel Trist, of the Middle Temple, esq. On his resignation

John Gilbert, of Christ Ch. coll. Camb. A.M. was presented by Catherine Gilbert, widow, and inst. 26 Sept. 1698. He was buried here 22 Apr. 1730,^b and

Thomas Jackson, A.M. rector of Greens Norton, was inst. 28 Sept. following, on the presentation of Frances Gilbert, widow. He was buried at Norton 31 Mar. 1749:^c and

Bartholomew Keeling, of St. Joh. Bap. coll. Camb. A.M.

was presented by the same patron, and inst. 4 May following. He was also rector of Braden, where a brief notice of his publications has been introduced. He was buried here 9 Dec. 1778,^d and

Thomas Flesher, of Lincoln coll. Oxf. A.M. vicar of Blakesley, was inst. 22 Dec. following, on the presentation of Anne Gilbert, spinster. His resignation introduced

John Thomas Flesher, of Lincoln coll. Oxf. A.M. who was presented by the trustees of the will of the late Gilbert Flesher, of Towcester, gent., and inst. 5 June, 1795. He was buried here 27 Jan. 1832,^e and his son,

John Thomas Flesher, of Lincoln coll. Oxf. A.M. was inst. 3 July following, on his own presentation.

THE REGISTERS commence in 1559.

THE CHURCH, dedicated to St. John, stands in a small field at the skirt of the village, and consists of a tower containing three bells, nave, north aisle, south porch, and chancel. The tower is 12ft. 5in. long, by 8ft. wide; the nave, 30ft. 10in. long, by 14ft. 6in. wide; the north aisle, 30ft. 2in. long, by 13ft. 2in. wide; and the chancel, 25ft. 10in. long, by 13ft. wide. The interior is paved and neatly pewed. There is a gallery across the west end of the nave. Attached to the western pillar is a circular Norman font, with rude foliage, and a moulding of semicircular wreaths. The nave is divided from the aisle by three arches, in low circular pillars, with plain capitals. In the east pillar is an entrance to the roof loft. The chancel is entered from the nave under an open arch. In the north wall are two seats under arches without pillars.

MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS.

NAVE: 1. Slabs for

1. Richard Winkless, 6 Apr. 1684.
2. James Neale, 11 Feb. 1686.

CHANCEL. I. On the south wall is a small tablet of black marble.

The Revd. Mr. John
Gilbert who was
Rector of Tiffeld 32
years, died April 19
1730 Aged 56.

Here also lieth
Mrs. Francis Gilbert
Wife of y^e Revd. Mr. John
Gilbert, who Died
Nov. 1st 1749 Aged 70.

II. On an oval tablet of white marble, collateral to the last:

Here
Mingled with the kindred ashes
of his once amiable and affectionate Wife

MARY KEELING
who Departed this Life July XIII. MDCCCLXVII.

are deposited the remains of
The Revd. BARTHOLOMEW KEELING M.A.
Late Rector of this Church^d

Ob. December v. MDCCCLXXIX. ÆT. LXIII.
Sacred to whose Memory

And to those Virtues which alone can stamp a Value
on Friendship Learning and Manners

This Tablet
is gratefully inscribed By his Executors
B. Bridges Rect. of Orlingbury

The Rev.
M. O. Clare Rect. of Maidford
April III. MDCCCLXXXI.

III. On a neat tablet of white marble, with black back ground:

IN A VAULT UNDERNEATH
ARE DEPOSITED THE REMAINS OF
JAMES

YOUNGEST SON OF THE LATE
REVD. JOHN THOMAS AND RHODA FLESHER
WHO DIED JULY THE 30th 1835 AGED 27 YEARS.

IV. Opposite to the last, on a similar tablet:

SACRED
TO THE MEMORY OF RHODA WIFE OF
THE REV. J. T. FLESHER RECTOR OF THIS PARISH
WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE 28 APRIL
1817 AGED 50.

SHE WAS ZEALOUSLY PIOUS WITHOUT ENTHUSIASM,
SINCERE IN FRIENDSHIP,

SYMPATHIZING WITH THE SUFFERINGS OF OTHERS,
PATIENT UNDER HER OWN AFFLICTIONS,
ANXIOUSLY ATTENTIVE IN SICKNESS,
MOST TENDERLY AFFECTIONATE;

QUALITIES, WHICH CAUSE HER DEATH THE MORE TO
BE LAMENTED

BY A HUSBAND, AND FIVE SONS, WITH CONSOLATION,
FROM THE HOPE OF A JOYFUL RESURRECTION
THRO' JESUS CHRIST.

ACQUAINT THYSELF WITH GOD AND BE
AT PEACE.— Jor. 22.21.

ALSO TO THE MEMORY OF
THE REV. JOHN THOMAS FLESHER
38 YEARS RECTOR OF THIS PARISH
WHO DIED ON THE 22nd OF JAN. 1832 AGED 61 YEARS.
ALSO THE REV. HENRY FLESHER A.M.
(FOURTH SON OF THE ABOVE)
WHO DIED ON THE 9th OF OCT. 1836 AGED 32 YEARS.

^a Culworth Reg.

^b Par. Reg.

^c Norton Reg.

^d 1778, buried 8 Dec. 1778.

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>3. Mrs. Sarah Bolinger dau. of William B.
.... June</p> <p>4. Rebekkah Bolinger, dau. of William B.
2 June 1684.</p> <p>5. William Gilbert, infant son of Revd. Mr. John G.
& Frances his w. 31 Aug. 1701.</p> <p>Catherine Hawkins wid. of Thomas H. gent. &
dau. of Revd. John Gilbert & Frances his w.
13 Dec. 1738 æt. 34.</p> <p>Susannah Gilbert dau. of rev. John G. &
Frances his w. 11 Oct. 1739 æt. 27.</p> <p>Frances Hawkins, only child of Thomas H.
gent. & Catherine his w. 1 Apr. 1742 æt. 17.</p> <p>6. Here lieth [the body of Mr.]
William Boucher [Rector of]
Tiffield who [was buried the fifth]
day of May [in the year of our Lord] 1686.</p> | <p>7. Mrs. Esther Boucher dau. of Mr. William B.
rector of Tiffield 11 Apr. 1709 æt. 59.</p> <p>8. Anne Gilbert, last surviving dau. of
Rev. John G. & Frances his w. 21 May
1784 æt. 71.</p> <p>Elizabeth</p> <p>9. Within the altar rails:
MR. GERENCE JAMES AN ORTHODOX
PIOUS AND CHARITABLE MINISTER
AFTER MANY TROUBLESOME DATES
IN A TIME OF WARR RESTED HIS FEE-
-BLE BODY HERE IN PEACE EXPECTING
A JOYFULL AND GLORIOUS RESURREC-
TION. AGED 80. HE DIED JAN. 6. 1645.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">IDEM ERO.</p> <p>10. Here lieth the Body
of the Revd. Mr.
John Gilbert.</p> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

BENEFACTIONS. (vide p. 263). **POOR AND CHURCH LAND.** The commissioners of inclosure, in 1780, allotted 6a. of land in lieu of the right of cutting furze, to the rector, churchwardens, and overseers for the time being, in trust, to lay out the rents and profits in fuel, provisions, apparel, or other necessities, or otherwise to sow or continue down the same in bushes, and to apply the produce for the benefit of the most necessitous and industrious poor of the parish not receiving collection.

Another allotment of 5a. 3r. 25p. of land was awarded in lieu of some open field land, that had been from ancient time appropriated to the repairs of the parish church, but by what means acquired is now unknown.

Both allotments, which are in part covered with furze and brakes, are let together at £3 *per ann.* for the poor's land, and £2. 10s. *per ann.* for the church land. The rent of the poor's allotment is distributed annually amongst the poor, at the discretion of the ministers and churchwardens. The rent of the church allotment, and the profits arising from the sale of the furze or bushes thereon, which are cut annually under the direction of the trustees, are carried to the account of the church rate. The bushes from the poor's allotment, which are cut annually also, are distributed once a year amongst all the poor for fuel.

LEESON'S CHARITY,* amounting to 10s. yearly, is distributed by the churchwardens, with the rector's concurrence, among poor widows, and other aged persons, who attend the church service.

* Vide **ANTHONY**, p. 269.

TOWCESTER

was, as will be shown in a subsequent page, the *Lactodorum* of the Romans. In the Saxon era it was transformed to Toveceastre, under which name, omitting the *a*, it was surveyed in Domesday; and from which it has been softened and modernised into its present appellation. Cestre and Castre, or in modern orthography Chester, from the Latin *Castrum*, a castle, or walled town, enters into the composition, either as the initial or terminating particle, of many localities occupying the sites of Roman stations; and is here combined with the river on whose banks the town is situated, and which partially divides the parish from Tiffeld and Easton Neston.

The parish, in its original state, contained about 5460 acres; but Abthorp, with Foscoate and Challock, extending to about 1930 acres, was severed from it and created a separate parish by act of parliament, 10 Geo.2 (1736). It now contains about 3530 acres, including the old inclosure of Hanley park, about 863 acres. The open fields of Towcester, with the hamlets of Wood Burcote and Caldecote, were enclosed by act of parliament, 2 Geo.3 (1762). The principal proprietors are, George William Richard earl of Pomfret, a minor, lord of the manor, who has about 1780 acres; Mr. John Waters about 135 acres; and the trustees of the Hulcote charity about 105 acres. Hanley is the exclusive property of the master and fellows of University College, Oxford.

The lordship is bounded on the north by Tiffeld, and by Easton Neston in Cleley hundred; north-east and east by Paulerspury in Cleley hundred; south by Whittlebury and Silveston in Norton hundred; south-west by Abthorp; west by Greens Norton; and north-west by Pateshull.

The soil varies from a strong clay to a light red loam; but the former predominates. The proportion of arable and permanent pasture is nearly equal. A considerable variety of organic remains have been collected from the different strata of this lordship. The great oolite which is worked for lime to the south near Wood Burcote, has furnished *Ammonites Hereii* (Min. Conch. pl. 195); *Turbo undulatus* (Phillips pl. 13, f. 18); *Pullastra*? new; and *Terebratula semiglobosa* (Min. Conch. pl. 15, f. 9). In the fuller's earth on the north-east are *Cidaris pseudo-diadema* (Parkinson's Org. Rem.); *C. crenularis*? (Goldfuss pl. 40, f. 6); *Isocardia concentrica* (Min. Conch. pl. 491, f. 1); *Terebratula concinna* (Ibid. pl. 83, f. 6); and *T. intermedia* (Ibid. pl. 15, f. 8). The inferior oolite, which skirts the north, has supplied *Pavonia tuberosa*? (Goldfuss pl. 12, f. 9); *Lithodendron dichotomum*? (Ibid. pl. 13, f. 3); *Clypeus sinuatus* (Parkinson pl. 2, f. 1); *C. orbicularis* (Phillips pl. 7, f. 3); four new species of Clypei; *Trigonia costata* (Min. Conch. pl. 85); *Panopea gibbosa* (Ibid. pl. 42); *Panopea gibbosa*, var.; *Terebratula digona* (Ibid. pl. 9); *T. obovata* (Ibid. pl. 101, f. 5); *T. crumena* (Ibid. pl. 83, f. 2-3); *T. obsoleta* (Ibid. pl. 83, f. 7); and *T. rostrata* (Ibid. pl. 537, f. 1). And in the blue marl or lias clay of the valley of the Tove, on which the town is built, have been found *Ammonites concavus* (Min. Conch. pl. 94); *A. Walcottii* (Ibid. pl. 106); *A. Bollensis* (Zeyer pl. 12, f. 3); *Nucula Ovum* (Min. Conch. pl. 476, f. 1); *Pectunculus sublevis* (Ibid. pl. 472, f. 4); *Cucullaea*, new; *Gryphaea incurva* (Ibid. pl. 112, f. 1-2); *G. Macullockii* (Ibid. pl. 547, f. 2); and *G. obliquata*? (Ibid. pl. 112, f. 3). In sinking into this clay for a well for the Union Workhouse, selenite and belemnites abounded in the first fifty feet; and, on reaching about one hundred feet, the water gushed forth, and in a few hours rose three feet above the surface.

MANORIAL HISTORY. **TERRA REGIS OR ANTIENT DEMESNE.*** "Tovecestre," both prior to, and after the Norman conquest, was a portion of the Terra Regis or antient demesne. In the time of Edward the confessor, it was valued at £12 yearly, but at the domesday survey was raised to £25, though the smiths or iron-workers [fabri] in the wood or forest, who rendered 100s. yearly at the former period, now rendered nothing; and ten out of the twenty-two carucates were either waste or unaccounted for. There were seven hides and a half. The arable land was twenty-two carucates, of which two were in demesne, and fifteen villeins had ten carucates. There was a mill worth 13s. 4d. yearly. Twelve acres of meadow. A wood, two miles long and one mile wide. And a socman rendered 5s. yearly for half a hide, and the fifth part of half a hide.^a This was doubtless the land in Tiffeld, held at the domesday survey by William, under the earl of Moreton, which is stated to be in the soke of Towcester,^b and exactly corresponds in quantity.

HONOR OF CLARE OR GLOCESTER.† Towcester was detached from the crown within a century from the Norman conquest. *Roger de Clare*, earl of Hertford—by a clerical error in the Monasticon converted into *Hereford*—gave Towcester mill to the knights templars of Jerusalem.^c He died in 19 Hen.2 (1173), and Maud St. Hilary, his widow, having married William de Albini, earl of Arundel,^d it was certified in the hydariam of Hen.2, that the earl of Arundel held seven hides and four small virgates in "Toucestr."^e This entry, it may be remarked, furnishes additional proof,

* Domesd. fo. 219, b.

b Ibid. fo. 223, b.

c Mon. Aug. 2 p. 546.

d Dugl. Bar. 1 p. 211.

e Cotton MSS. Vesp.

Exij. fo. 96.

* Vide KINGSTHORPE, vol. 1, p. 39.

† Vide ROWELL.

amongst others, that this return was made subsequent to the *Liber Niger*, and towards the close of Henry's reign. In the Testa de Nevill, about 19 Hen.3 (1235), Gilbert earl of Clare, Hertford, and Gloucester, grandson of earl Roger, under the simple designation of Gilbert de Clare, was found to have held of the king in capite one fee in the manors of Rowell and "Toucestre" in the county of Northampton, Shipton in the county of Oxford, and "Kerchbroc" [Carbrook] in Norfolk, but the king had then the custody and wardship of Richard, son and heir of the said Gilbert de Clare.^a

So late as the reign of Henry VII., on the death of George, earl of Kent, this manor was found to be held of the heirs of Gilbert de Clare.^b

MANOR. It seems doubtful whether the earl of Arundel merely had a life interest in Towcester, in right of his wife's dower, or, whether by subinfeudation from her son earl Richard, he obtained the mesne manor in perpetuity. The latter supposition will best explain its subsequent acquisition by the Monte Caniso or Munchensi family.

In 6 Joh. (1204), William de Albini, earl of Arundel, gave 1000 marks (£666. 13s. 4d.) for the wardship of the heir of William de Munchensi; to whom he afterwards married his daughter,^c and, I presume, settled Towcester on the marriage. In 8 Joh. (1207), this William de Munchensi, still in ward to the earl of Arundel, had full seisin granted him of all the demesnes and fees of [Cecily] late countess of Hereford, sister of his grandmother Agnes, and surviving daughter and heiress of Pagun or Pain Fitz John.^d He died without issue, and in 15 Joh. (1213), Warin de Munchensi gave 2000 marks (£1333. 6s. 8d.) to be paid within two years, for his inheritance, and pledged all his lands to the king for the due payment, and that he might marry with the king's assent; William earl of Arundel his uncle, and James le Sauvage giving also their security.^e Warin is supposed by Dugdale to have been uncle and heir of William^f but that he was brother is proved by the earl being here styled uncle of Warin, though the only connecting tie was the marriage of Warin's brother to the earl's daughter, and consequently the earl was their father's brother in law, an application of the term uncle which would not be recognised in modern times. Warin died in 1255 (39 Hen.3), one of the noblest and wisest among the noble and wise, as well as one of the most wealthy, the inventory of his will amounting to the enormous sum of 200,000 marks.^g The wardship of William de Munchensi, his son and heir, was committed by the king to his own uterine brother, William de Valence, who had married the daughter of Warin^h by his first wife. The minority was of short duration, for in the following year, doing his homage, he had livery of all the lands of his late father in the counties of Norfolk, Essex, Kent, Gloucester, and Northampton.ⁱ

He was an active adherent of the barons; commanded the van of the army at the victorious battle of Lewes, and was summoned to the parliament convened by Montfort in the name of the captive Henry. He was subsequently one of the prisoners taken by surprise with young Montfort at Kenilworth, a few days before the battle of Evesham wrested from the barons their temporary power; and in the general confiscation which followed, his lands were given to William de Valence, his brother in law,^j but through the intervention of Dionisia his mother, Valence freely restored them again. Whilst engaged in the Welch expedition in 16 Edw.1 (1287), he was, with several of his men, crushed to death in undermining the castle of Droselan,^k and his mother Dionisia and two others gave 2000 marks (£1333. 6s. 8d.) for the custody of all the lands which he held in capite, together with all knights fees, advowsons, and other pertinencies, till the legal age of his daughter and heiress Dionisia, saving to the king her marriage.^l

The legitimacy of Dionisia was disputed by William de Valence (on behalf of Joan his wife), who complained that when the king was in parts beyond the sea in Gascony, he went to the earl of Cornwall and the king's council remaining in England, and claimed and obtained a writ of inquest, but afterwards, one Dionisia, the reputed daughter of William, was admitted as next heir, to the manifest disherison of the said Joan his wife. The earl and the council in reply to the charge, acknowledged that they granted the writ, but before he claimed it, Dionisia mother of William came before them in full council, and brought Dionisia daughter of William, asserting her to be the true heir, and praying she might be admitted as the heir of William her deceased son; and because it was public and notorious that William when living declared her to be his daughter and heir, and caused it to be made known and proclaimed in many places; and also because the bishop of Worcester in whose diocese she was born, by his letters patent, and the archbishop of Canterbury *vina voce* pronounced in favour of her legitimacy, they admitted her as next heir, and caused her lands and tenements by reason of her minority to be seised into the king's hands. The king sanctioned their proceedings,^m but Valence, still dissatisfied, procured a bull from the pope addressed to the archbishop of Canterbury, respecting the right succession to the goods of William de Munchensi, deceased, and in the parliament which began after St. Hilary, in 18 Edw.1 (1290), petitioned the king to appoint a curator or guardian as defendant for Dionisia before the archbishop and the judges named in the bull, or permit the judges themselves, ex officio, to assign to her a guardian for that purpose. The bull having been "seen, heard, and understood," it appeared to the king that he could not lawfully grant, nor permit the judges to appoint a curator for her, because the said bull tended in effect to determine the right of hereditary succession, whereas no one ought to have cognizance of hereditary succession, except the king's court, or the ecclesiastical court, by command of the king's court; and if the bull proceeded it would be against the custom hitherto used in the realm; and also because the king had lately provided that appeals should not be made, or causes be promoted in the court christian of those matters which are to be demanded from the king's court, by reason of the many inconveniences which might follow thereon; and also, inasmuch as pleas of hereditary succession are so ordered that they ought first to commence in the king's court, by the king's writs, and to be sent from that court, if need be, to the

^a Test. Nev. fo. 123.

^b Rot. Claus. 8 Joh. m. 1.

^c Par. (ed. 1644) p. 610.

^d Rot. Orig. 16 Edw.1, p. 4.

^e Vol. II.

^f Esc. 23 Hen.7, n. 307.

^g Vincent on Brookes, p. 239.

^h Dugdl. Bar. 1, p. 561.

ⁱ Rot. Parl. 1, p. 38.

^j Rot. Pip. 6 Joh. & Rot. Fin. 6 Joh. m. 10.

^k Rot. Fin. 15 Joh. m. 2.

^l Rotuli Selecti, p. 129.

^m Dugdl. Bar. 1, p. 120.

ⁿ Dugdl. Bar. 1, p. 561.

^o Mat.

^p Lell. Coll. vol. 1.

court christian, and not to the contrary; and also, because many and innumerable pleas pleaded in the king's courts in times past, and the judgments rendered therein, would be annulled and perhaps reversed should this bull proceed, and perhaps the testimony of deceased bishops or others might be annulled or weakened; and also, because the said William and Joan sought by the said bull to invalidate the judgment of the bishop of Worcester, who adjudged one Simon de Ludgate who lately obtained a bull not so prejudicial to the king's crown, was, by the judgment of the king's court, sentenced to prison during the king's pleasure, and if the present bull were permitted to proceed, the king would act in opposition to the judgment rendered by himself and his council; and also, because the king himself was custos and curator of the said Dionisia according to the custom of the realm, by reason of her wardship, nor could he appoint another curator except to his own injury; and if he should appoint a curator, he would thus give sentence for his ward, which would be inconvenient; and if he should permit the said archbishop or other judges to appoint one, it would thus of necessity behave him hereafter to permit any other judge delegate, and in short, the pope himself, and thus forthwith the church of Rome would obtain the power of taking cognizance of hereditary succession of lands and tenements in this realm, which would manifestly be against the crown and custom of the realm, and the king's court would thus become subject to the judges delegate.^a The attempt to nullify or abrogate the episcopal decision ratified by the king in council through an appeal to papal jurisdiction, was thus spiritedly and constitutionally repelled; but Valence, shifting his ground, made another effort, and in the parliament held after Easter in the same year, came before the king, and prayed that he and Joan his wife might be permitted to sue an appeal before the bishop [archbishop] of Canterbury, against the unjust sentence pronounced by the bishop of Worcester, respecting the alleged marriage of William de Munchensi with Amicia, and the legitimacy of their daughter Dionisia, and which sentence he understood from certain discreet men learned in the law, would obtain perpetual confirmation unless the appeal were prosecuted within a year of being made; but, inasmuch as his object was to invalidate the said sentence and prove the illegitimacy of Dionisia, in order to attain her inheritance and remove her, being within age and in ward to the king, from her free tenement whereof she was in seisin by the livery of the king, and to which she was admitted by the king's council, which would be manifestly inconvenient, and against the law and custom of the realm, he was inhibited from proceeding in any manner with the appeal before Dionisia was of full age.^b In 20 Edw.1 (1292), these judgments against Valence were recited and confirmed by parliament;^c and in 25 Edw.1 (1297),

Dionisia de Munchensi was returned from this county as holding lands or rents amounting to £20 yearly and upwards, either in capite or otherwise, and as such summoned under the general writ to perform military service in person with horse and arms in parts beyond the seas.^d The same year she occurs as the wife of Hugh de Vere, a younger son of Robert earl of Oxford, to whom she had been in ward. On the death of Dionisia, the grandmother, in 32 Edw.1 (1364), by a writ of *diem clausit extremum*, her manors in Hertfordshire, Essex, and Surrey were adjudged to *Dionisia*, wife of Hugh de Vere, as next heir.^e By another writ her Yorkshire manors and lands were similarly adjudged; but Joan de Valence (countess of Pembroke), then in her widowhood, asserted her right as next heir of William de Munchensi. Hugh and Dionisia produced a fine, and Joan not prosecuting her petition, the escheator was directed to give them seisin.^f The former estate, enjoyed by Dionisia as heiress of Anesty, was suffered by Joan to pass without opposition; but the Yorkshire estate having been, I presume, only held by Dionisia in dower, was claimed by Joan on the ground of her brother having died without lawful issue. It is singular that she should have renewed the attempt to illegitimimize her niece so many years after the solemn decision of parliament, and no less so, that having instituted proceedings, she should suffer judgment by default. *Dionisia*, surviving her husband, died in 7 Edw.2 (1313), seised (int. al.) of the manor of Towcester, held of the earl of Gloucester, by the fourth of a fee, and Aymer de Valence, earl of Pembroke, was her cousin and heir;^g and thus the son of Joan came rightfully into possession of the inheritance for which she had so pertinaciously and unjustly contended. In 9 Edw.2 (1315), he was certified to be lord of Towcester;^h and three years afterwards, had grants of an annual fair,ⁱ and of free warren.^k He distinguished himself both in the council and the field. In 1322 he was one of the peers who countenanced by their presence and vote the summary execution of the earl of Lancaster; and his loyalty or courtly servility was rewarded with the earl's valuable manor and castle of Higham Ferrers; and the manors of Thorp Waterville, Achurch, and Aldwinckle, forfeited by Robert de Holand,* one of the earl's partisans.^l According to Leland, "Syr Aymer de Valance Erle of Penbroke, went over into France with Quene Isabelle, and there he was sodenly morderid in a pryvi sege, by the vengeance of God. For he consentid to the Deth of S. Thomas of Lancaster." He was thrice married, but left no issue; and by the inquisition after his death, his nephew, *John de Hastings*, of Abergavenny, aged thirty years, son of his sister Isabella, and his nieces, *Joan*, wife of David Strabolgi earl of Athol, aged twenty-eight years, and *Elizabeth Comyn*, aged twenty years, daughters of his sister Joan, were found to be his heirs.^m

^a Rot. Parl. vol. 1, p. 16.

^b Ibid. p. 17.

^c Ibid. p. 84.

^d Cardigan MSS. M. p. 75.

^e Placita Mich. 32 Edw.1.

r. 33.

^f Ibid. r. 100.

^g Esc. 7 Edw.2, n. 51.

^h Cardigan MSS. Nom. Vill. p. 10.

ⁱ Rot. Cart. 12 Edw.2, n. 71.

^k Ibid. n. 73.

^l Rot. Pat. 15 Edw.2, n. 2, m. 23.

^m Lei. Coll. vol. 1, pt. 2, p. 474.

ⁿ Esc. 17 Edw.2, n. 75.

* Vide BRACKLEY, vol. 1, p. 563.

From Dugdale's Baronage, with additions and corrections from public records and other authorities.

VALENCE. Barry Argent and Azure, an orle of martlets Gules.

PAGAN or PAYN FITZ JOHN of Ewias co. Heref. $\frac{1}{2}$

CECILY d. & coh. ob. s. p.=ROGER EARL OF HEREFORD
8 Joh. (1207). ob. 1154 (1 Hen.2).

.. 31 Hen.2 (1185)
WILLIAM PAINELL 31
185).

=2w. DIONISIA d &
of Nicholas de An
of Anstey co. Ha
& Nutfield co. Su
ob. 32 Edw.1 (130

DE MUN	AMICI
Towcester,	d. of
UNCHENSI
1.49 Hen.3	
1, killed	
6 Edw.1	

IONISIA d. = HUGH
h. had VERE,
owcester; younge
er legiti son of
cy dispa bert ear
18Edw.1. Oxforde
b.s.p. 7 mar. 2
d. Edw.1
1313), *Esc.* (1297)
Edw.2 2 Edw
51. (1309)
dead 7
Edw.2
(1313)

ELIZABETH = RICHARD
 Joh. 1st. TALBOT,
 19 Edw. 2. Iron Talbot
 of Va. mar. 6 E
 of (1332), c
 c. 18 Edw. 3 (1
 1325).
 EARL of SHREWSBURY

on the ground of Laurence de Hastings being within age and in ward to the king.⁶

In 20 Edw.3 (1346), on leaving the aid for knighting Edward the black prince, but on his death in 28 Edw.3 (1354), this answered for the *sixth* of a fee in Toucestre, of the honor of Gloucester; but on the sixth occurrence, but not the manor was returned as held by the *fourth* of a fee,² a discrepancy in the tenure which is of frequent occurrence, but not of easy solution. Juliana, his widow, survived till 40 Edw.3 (1366), when Toucestre descended to her grandson and heir.

John Hastings, earl of Pembroke.⁶ The pedigree of Hastings will be more appropriately introduced under YARDLEY,

⁴ Esc. 28 Edw.3,

which owes its distinctive designation to that noble family. For the elucidation, however, of the descent of this manor, it must be stated that the earldom of Pembroke terminated with *John* the third earl, a gallant young nobleman who was unfortunately killed in a tournament, in 1389, before he attained his majority, when his vast patrimony underwent a tripartite division. Both Towcester and Yardley Hastings passed to the heir general, *Reginald de Grey*, baron Grey de Ruthin, whose great great grandson *Richard* third earl of Kent, after alienating all his disposable estates, ended a life of extravagance and dissipation at a tavern in Lombard street.

In the extended memoir of *sir Richard Empson*, under *EASTON NESTON*,* it will be seen that he was a native of Towcester. He purchased the manor of Easton Neston of the Greens in 14 Hen.7 (1499); and by indenture 26 Nov. 21 Hen.7 (1505), between "Richard Erle of Kent" and "Sir Richard Emson knyght Chancellor of the Duchie of Lancaster," reciting that the said earl or his father had suffered recoveries of the manor and hundred of Towcester with appurtenances, and made estates thereof to divers persons to certain uses and intents, which by the agreement of the parties having interest therein were discharged for divers considerations, so that all persons having any estate therein were seised to the use of the earl in fee; it was covenanted and agreed that the recoverers and feecees should stand seised of the said manor and hundred to the use of the said earl for life, remainder to the said Richard Emson in fee; and for the surety of the said manor and hundred, and also of "the right and title of founder and patron of the church of Assheby called Chanons Assheby in the hundred of Norton" to be also had and made to the said Emson in fee, the earl covenanted to suffer recoveries or make such further assurances as Emson might require: and it was further covenanted that Emson should have the said manor and hundred and other premises of the demise and lease of the earl from St. Michael last, during the life of the earl rendering £55 yearly; and for the said bargain and sale and expense of the alteration and change of the uses and intents of the manor and hundred, and "for the suer graunte of the said right and title of founder and patron" of Ashby Priory, the said Emson should pay the said earl 700 marks (£466. 13s. 4d.) i.e. 400 marks to be paid in hand, and the other 300 marks by £100 at All Saints next, and £100 at All Saints then following; and the earl bound himself to the several covenants in the sum of "tweyn thousand marks."^a By another deed in Feb. 22 Hen.7 (1507), the earl "for divers and many causes and considerations reduced the reserved rent on the lease for his life, to £50 yearly and no more."^a The recovery referred to in the first deed was suffered by the earl to *sir William Capell*, in favor of, or for security to *sir John Hussey*, but after the contract with Emson, the earl having assigned to him in recompense the manors of Brampton in Huntingdonshire, the manor of Assheby David [Castle Ashby], the hundreds of Wymerley and Amfordesho [Hamfordsho], and the reversion of the manor of Yerdeley, he discharged all the interest he, or any person for him, had in the manor of Towcester and lands there and in the hamlets of the same, and in Mar. 22 Hen.7 (1507), quit claimed to Emson. In May following, the earl, for a certain sum of money, released to Emson all the reserved rent or annuity on the lease, and quit claimed for himself and his heirs all right in the manor and hundred.^a

In 3 Hen.8 (1511,12), the king granted to *William Compton*, esq. afterwards knighted,† the manor and hundred of Towcester, and the other possessions of the late *sir Richard Empson*, then in the crown by forfeiture and attainder, to hold to him in fee tail, by service of 1d. yearly; together with all issues and profits from 28 Apr. 1 Hen.8 (1509), and all the goods and chattels in the said manors and lands which had fallen into the king's hands.^b

The attainder of *sir Richard Empson* was reversed, and his son, *Thomas Empson*, esq. restored to his lands the year following;‡ but not to quiet possession, for strife and variance having arisen between him and the earl of Kent and Elizabeth his wife, respecting the right and title to the manor and hundred of Towcester, and of all the lands and tenements, advowsons of chapels and chantries, &c. confirmed by letters patent 28 Jan. 2 Hen.8 (1511), to the said countess for life, it was mutually agreed to abide the award of *Thomas (Rowthall) bishop of Durham*, *Thomas earl of Surrey*, treasurer of England, and *sir John Fineox*, chief justice of the king's bench; who, on the 5th of May, 5 Hen.8 (1513), having called before them the parties and their counsel, and "heard their titles, answers, replications, rejoinders, with such evidence and proves as they could bring," adjudged that Emson should stand seised thereof to him and his heirs "without vexation, inquieting, lette, or trouble" of the earl and countess and their heirs, or any one having or pretending to have any title to their use, except as to an annuity of £50 yearly, which Emson should grant and secure to the earl and countess during the life of the countess; and that he should pay to the earl and countess £25 on the 2d Nov. following (1513), in the parish church of Towcester, between the hours of nine and three of the clock.^a The earl and countess, in Trinity term, levied a fine to *sir John Danvers* and others to the use of Emson in fee.

So late as the sixteenth century, persons of rank and distinction did not consider it derogatory to their dignity to accept the stewardship of manors or religious houses at petty salaries; and in Dec. 10 Hen.8 (1518), Emson appointed *sir William Compton* steward of the lordship and manor of Towcester, by himself or sufficient deputy from St. Michael last, for the term of his life, receiving for the execution of the said office, 4 marks (£2. 13s. 4d.) yearly.^a The award in his favor did not relieve Emson from his difficulties and embarrassments. He laboured under a heavy debt to the king, which, from being incurred in the same year, was not improbably the price of the restitution of his lands, and the pressure of which ultimately compelled him to alienate his patrimony. By indenture, dated 20 Aug. 22 Hen.8 (1530), between *Thomas Emson* of Estmeston esq. and

"*Richard Fernor* merchaunt of the staple at Calice," reciting that in 7 Hen.8 (1515), Emson was indebted to the king 3000 marks (£2000), for 1000 marks of which, he, and others with him, were bound by recognizance in chancery, dated 18 Dec. 4 Hen.8 (1512), and for the remaining 2000 marks, he and others were bound by two several obligations to *sir William Compton*, *sir William Tyler*, and *Nicholas Warwick*, collector of the king's subsidy in the port of London, all which recognizances and bonds were to the use of the king; that the king "of his goodnes and benyng grace at the humble peticion and sute of the said *Thomas Emson* was contented and pleased to accepte pceyve and take the said

* Fernor evidences.

^b Rot. Pat. 24 Feb. 3 Hen.8.

^c Act of Parl. 4 Hen.8, c. 8.

^a Vide p. 139 to 141.

† Vide CASTLE ASHBY.

some of mmm marks," by 100 marks at the feast of St. John the Baptist next; 100 marks at the feast of St. Martin, in winter next; and so yearly at the said feasts till the whole sum shall be fully paid; and for the sure payment thereof he engaged before the feast of the translation of St. Thomas the "Marter," to make a sufficient estate to Thomas (Wolsey) archbishop of York, Richard (Fox) bishop of Winchester, and John Heron, esq. treasurer of the king's chamber, the king's commissioners, of and in the manor of "Towcester" and other manors and lands, of the clear yearly value of 200 marks (£133. 6s. 8d.), and of the said sum of 3000 marks he had paid the king 1100 marks, so that he then owed 1900 marks; Emson, in consideration of Fermor covenanting to pay to the king or to the treasurer of the chamber the said balance by 200 marks at the enseling of these presents, 100 marks at St. John the Baptist next, 100 marks at St. Martin, in winter next, and so yearly 100 marks at the said feasts till the whole was paid, and of acquitting, discharging, and saving him harmless to the king, bargained and sold to him and his heirs for ever, all the manor of "Towcester," and all his lands and tenements which were sometime of the prior or priory of Bradenstoke, a close called Costowe, the manors of Shythelhangar, Stoke (Bruerne), Aldryngton, Grymescombe, and Higham, and advowsons of churches and chapels, chuntries, markets, fairs, leases, grants, and convent seals concerning the house of Bradenstoke in Wilts, and all his other hereditaments in "Towcester;" Abthorp, Foscothe, Woodburcote, Caldecote, Shythelhangar, Aldryngton, Stoke Bruerne, Cold Higham, Grymescombe, Potcote, Woodend, and Blisworth, and elsewhere in the counties of Northampton, Oxford, and Warwick; and Fermor covenanted, after a perfect assurance of the said manors and lands, that he would, by sufficient deed, grant an annuity of £106. 13s. 4d. to Emson for life, and if he should be living ten years after the date thereof, he would pay him in addition 100 marks yearly for life; and further covenanted that Emson should present to all benefices appendant to any of the said manors becoming vacant during his life.^a Richard Fermor, esq. died in 5 Edw.6 (1551),^b and the manor of Towcester has lineally descended with EASTON NESTON* down to George William Richard, 5th earl of Pomfret, a minor, the present lord (1838).

BRADENSTOKE PRIORY MANOR. The abbey of Wandregisile, Vandrille, or Fontenelle, in Normandy,† besides the advowson, had a small lay fee in "Toucester," which in the hydarium of Hen.2 was returned to consist of six small virgates, held of the abbey by *Wybert ad ecclesiam*.^c The priory of Bradenstoke in Wiltshire having possessions in the diocese of Rouen in Normandy, exchanged them with the abbey of Wandregisile for other lands in England. William de Munchensi claimed furnace of the prior's tenants in Towcester, and on their refusal to bake in his common oven distrained and impounded the cattle of two of them, William de Lychbarewe, and Andrew de Harleston, and would not suffer them to be released till the owners had complied with his demands. But the prior resisting the claim, it was found by the jury on an inquisition in 16 Edw.1 (1287), that the two tenants of the prior who did suit to the late William de Munchensi's oven were unjustly compelled so to do by his bailiff, but neither he nor his ancestors had right to the furnace of the prior's tenants; that the prior's tenements formerly belonged to the abbey of Wandregisile, and the tenants baked at the abbot's oven so long as it was kept in order; and that when in the time of the farmers from the abbot it was suffered to get out of repair, the tenants went to Munchensi's oven because there was no other in the town of Towcester, but after the prior had repaired his oven, all the tenants in his court returned to his oven, and baked there nearly half a year before the death of Munchensi, except the two tenants who were unjustly distrained.^d In 20 Edw.4 (1484), Simon Sutton, prior, and the convent of Bradenstoke, granted to William Colyngton, esq. and John Ashby, all their lands and tenements and rents, as well of free tenants as of natives, with profits of courts, &c. in Burton [Latimer] and Towcester—the advowson of the church of Towcester, and presentation to the same only excepted—to hold to them for ever, rendering to the said prior and convent £9. 1s. 8d. yearly, paying the tithes to the king for the said lands, and providing for the prior, cellarer, and steward, and those who come with them, at their own cost and charge, meat and drink, and hay, straw, and provender for their horses, whenever they or any of them came into these parts.^e In 17 Hen.7 (1501), John Ashby, son and heir of John Ashby, late of Abthorp, gent. for 100 marks (£66. 13s. 4d.) sold to

Richard Emson, gent., a manor in "Toucester," called the Nether manor, otherwise the Prior's manor, and a manor in Burton Latimer, with all lands in Toucester and Burton Latimer late belonging to the priory of Bradenstoke, and which John Ashby, the father, late had by the gift of the prior and convent under their common seal.^f

In the conveyance from Emson to Fermor in 22 Hen.8 (1530), the Bradenstoke manor is simply described as "the lands and tenements in Towcester which were sometime of the prior or priory of Bradenstoke," and it has subsequently merged in the principal manor.

THE KNIGHTS TEMPLARS had Towcester mill, parcel of the preceptory at Dingley, of the gift of Roger de Clare, earl of Hertford.^g From them it passed with their other possessions to the prior and brothers of the hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in England; and after the dissolution in 16 Eliz. (1574), was granted (*int. et.*) to Robert (Dudley) earl of Leicester.^h This mill cannot now be traced, as there is no tradition of any other than the "Church mill," which occurs in the inquisition on the death of Richard Fermor, esq. in 5 Edw.6 (1551); and Wood Burcot mill, which also belonged to the lord of the manor, but has been destroyed many years.

LUFFIELD PRIORY had, by deed without date, a messuage in Towcester, extending from the court of the lord of Towcester to the king's way called Watling street.ⁱ In 24 Edw.3 (1350), John de Grene, chaplain, and his co-feece conveyed to the priory, for the souls of Ralph de Plumpton, Richard Blundel and Elizabeth his wife, John Blundel and

^a Fermor evidences.

^b Esc. 5 Edw.6, p. 2, n. 30.

^c Cotton MSS. Vesp. E.xii. fo. 96.

^d Esc. 16 Edw.1, n. 60.

^e Fermor

^f Ibid.

^g Mon. Ang. 2, p. 546.

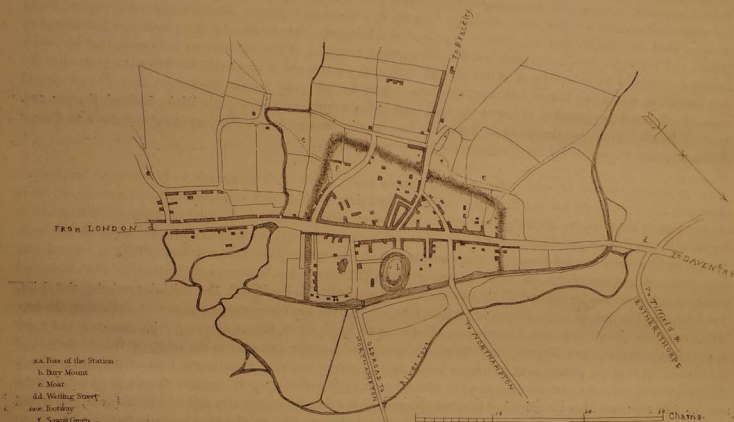
^h Rot. Pat. 5 Apr. 16 Eliz. p. 1.

ⁱ Luffield cartulary, fo. 34, b.

^{*} Vide p. 142.

[†] Vide Boughron, vol. 1, p. 40.

Matilda his wife, and sir Richard Blundel and Alice his wife, all the lands and tenements which they had of the feoffment of Matilda, widow of John Blundel, in "Towcestre," Burcote, Caldecote, Stoke Bruerne, Schutlanger, Estneston, and Hulcott;^a and in 28 Edw.3 (1354), John de Grene had licence to grant to the priory thirty acres of land in Towcester, Estneston, and Hulcott.^b In 33 Edw.3 (1359), it was found by inquisition that two messuages in Towcester, late belonging to John Blundel, had been seized by the bailiff of the manor for William de Clinton, late earl of Huntingdon, and Juliana his wife, because the prior of Luffield had appropriated them to himself by gift of John de Grene, without licence from the earl, of whom they were held by 16d. and the service of providing him a man for five days yearly, and suit to his court every three weeks.^c



THE LACTODORO OR LACTODORUM

of the Romans, though differently appropriated by some of the earlier commentators on Antoninus, may confidently be pronounced the precursor of modern TOWCESTER; numerical distance from the connecting stations, coins, and every other corroborative argument of which the case is susceptible, combining in support of its pretensions.

This station is in the line of the second, sixth, and eighth iters of Antoninus, and the first iter of Richard of Cirencester; the routes of which having been previously introduced,* need not be repeated here; but the tabular view, illustrative of the relative position of the stages, is subjoined, reversing the course of the sixth iter of Antoninus, and the first of Richard, that all may proceed in one uniform direction.

ANTONINUS. Iter 2.	M	ANTONINUS. Iter 6.	M	ANTONINUS. Iter 8.	M	RICHARD. Iter 1.	M
Venonis		Venonis to		Venonis		Benonis to	
to		Tripontium	ix	to		Tripontia	ix
Beneventa	xvii	Isannavatia	xii	Bannavanto	xviii	Isanta Varia	xii
Lactodoro	xii	Lactodoro	xii	to		Lactodoro	xii
Magiovinto	xvi	Magiovinto	xvi	Magiovinto	xxviii	Magio Vinto	xvi

Talbot, the earliest regular commentator on Antoninus, fixes Bennavenna at Stony Stratford, and Magiovinto at Dunstable,^d all three at variance with the result of more matured investigation. Camden erred still more widely; and his misappropriation furnishes a striking instance of the tenacity with which a favorite theory is

^a Luffield cartulary, fo. 62.

^b Esc. [Inq. ad q. d.] 28 Edw.3, p. 2, n. 24.

^c Esc. 33 Edw.3, p. 2, n. 35.

^d Leland's Itin.

(ed 1769), vol. 3, p. 153.

^e Vide ISANNAVARIA, vol. 1, p. 340.

maintained in opposition to the most obvious probabilities, and to the sacrifice of every other consideration. In attempting to determine the sites of the various Roman towns, this distinguished antiquary laid an undue and almost exclusive stress on the resemblance of names; and rather than relinquish a fancied coincidence of this kind between Tripontium and Towcester, founded, too, on erroneous assumptions of local peculiarities, he transposed the position of this station, placing it *before* instead of *after* Isannavaria, and boldly charged the blunder on Antoninus himself. "Then came we straight waies," says he, "to TRIPONTIUM, which Antonine the Emperor mentioneth, though not in due place; For I am of opinion that this was the very same which now we call *Torcester*: and to prove it there be some arguments of moment as yet remaining. If *Trimontium* in *Thracia* had that name of three hills, *Triturria* in *Tuscane* of three towers, and *Tripolis* likewise of three cities conjoynd in one; I have no reason to doubt, that this *Tripontium* of ours, might be so called of three bridges. And heere at this *Torcester* the *Roman Portway* which in many places most evidently sheweth itselfe betwene it and *Stony Stratford* is cut through by three speciall channels or streames that the little River there divideth itselfe into; which in times past, like as at this day had of necessity there severall 'Bridges over them. Now, if you ask a Britain, how he saith in British [*Three Bridges*] you shall heare him by and by answer [*Tur pont*]: and there be certaine honest men, from whom I have received heere peeces of Roman coine, that constantly avouch, the true name of this place to be *Torcester*, and think it was so called of *Towres*. Howbeit *Marianus* nameth it *Tovecester* if the booke be not faulty, in whom we read, that this towne was so fortified in the yee of our Redeemer 917, that the Danes by no meanes could winne it by assault: and that king *Edward* the elder afterwards compassed it about with a stone Wall; yet wee with all our seeking could see no tokens of any such Wall. Only there is a Mount remaining cast up with men's hands, they call it *Berihill* now turned into private men's Gardens, and planted on every side with Chery trees. And very time itselfe hath so conquered and subdued the towne, that beholden it is to the situation, to the name, and to old coines other whiles heere found, for that esteeme which it hath of antiquity. For no remarkable thing there is in it but one onely Church that it hath; and the same is a large and faire building wherein *D. Spode*, sometime the Parson thereof, by report, a good benefactor to church and Town both, lieth entombed within a tombe of fine and curious workmanship."^a In assigning *Lactodorum* to *Stony Stratford*, he again enforces his favorite argument of etymological affinity, quaintly observing, "the signification of the old name *LACTODORUM* fetched out of the British language, maketh for me and favoureth my conjecture. Which name accordeth passing well with this new English name. For both names in both languages were imposed of Stone and Fould."^b

Burton, quoting Camden, gives an implied sanction to his hypothesis.^c

Morton adopted the opinion of Camden respecting *Lactodorum*, substituting only OLD STRATFORD on the Northamptonshire side of the Ouse* for *Stony Stratford*; but rejected his appropriation of *Tripontium*, which he places—where it is now fixed by common consent—at Dowbridge, near Lilbourn, and remarks, "Mr. Camden himself was persuaded that it was anciently a Roman Station. And being thus persuaded 'tis strange he did not see that no Place could lay so fair a claim to *Tripontium*." This observation, as an argument ad hominem, applies with equal force to Morton, in overlooking *Lactodorum* when thus noticing *Towcester*. "That Mr. Camden's *Tripontium*, i.e. *Towcester*, was indeed a Roman Station, tho' not one of those that happen'd to be mention'd in the old Itineraries, appears by the Roman Coins that are not unfrequently found at it; and particularly upon that called *Berrymount Hill*. 'Tis certain that a great many of the Roman Stations in Britain are omitted in *Antoninus*, and amongst these some few as we may reasonably imagine upon their principal Roads. The true *Tripontium* is pass'd by unmention'd in two, that is, in the second and eighth of the Journeys of that Itinerary, though it lay in the direct Road of the *Proconsul*, or whoever it was that took those Journeys. So 'tis not strange, that *Towcester*, though perhaps at that time a Town of Note, it standing on the *Watling street* in the high Road leading from *London* and *Verulam* or *St. Albans* to other considerable Cities in the Northern Parts, should not be once mention'd in *Antoninus's* Itinerary."

"*Berrymount-Hill*, as 'tis very tautologically called, is on the N.E. side of *Towcester*, and on the Southern Bank of the Rill that incloses the Town on the North. 'Tis surrounded with a Trench, which is fill'd with Water from the Brook. The Hill is compos'd of Earth and Gravel, and is now flat at the top. It commands the *Northampton Road*, and I shoud' imagine it had been rais'd against the Danes who having burnt *Northampton*, besieg'd *Towcester* Anno 921. but that the Roman Coins evince its greater Antiquity. However, this, and indeed all the Muniments upon the *Nyne* are so plac'd that we may reasonably believe they were rais'd against a Northern Enemy. But yet it does not appear that there ever was a Roman Fort or Tower upon that Hill, or indeed in any other Part of the Town. And therefore the Name that some would give it, of *Torcester* from *Turris*, a Tower is not to be admitted; there being no Authority or other Foundation for it."^d

Stuckley, in his first volume, gives a general assent to the Roman origin of *Towcester*, "but what its Roman name, time has enried us, the Itinerary passing it by."^e and yet in his second volume, when commenting on Richard of Cirencester, unaware of his own inconsistencies, and of probability and distance, he transfers *Bennavenna* or *Isannavaria* to *Towcester*,^f having previously assigned it "beyond dispute" to *Weldon*.^g

Horsley, by applying the test of the numerals, and computing the distances, concludes, "I have no difficulty therefore in pronouncing *Towcester* to be *Lactodorum*;"^h and in allusion to Camden's proposed orthography of *Torcester*, adds, "I should suspect it to have been *Dorcester* or *Todorcester* and to have arisen from part of the name *Lactodorum*."ⁱ

The late Rev. Mr. Reynolds, rector of Little Bowden, in this county, in his elaborate commentary on *Antoninus*, published in 1799, says, "the order of the towns, the discovery of antiquities, the name, and the distance all unite in proving *Towcester* the remains of this Roman town."^j The rev. Mr. Leman, in his valuable commentary on Richard of Cirencester; and all subsequent antiquaries echo this decision.

* Camden's *Britannia* (ed. 1637), p. 505.

^a Stuckley's *Itinerarium Curiosum*, vol. 1, p. 114.

^b Reynolds's *Iter Britanniarum*, p. 219.

^c Vide OLD STRATFORD, p. 137.

^d Ibid. p. 397.

^e Ibid. vol. 2, p. 126, 137, & 141.

^f Burton (ed. 1658), p. 210.

^g Ibid. vol. 1, p. 107.

^h Morton, p. 508.

ⁱ Horsley's *Brit.*

Though the similarity assumed by Camden between the ancient and modern situations and names of Tripontium and Towcester is altogether arbitrary and unfounded; and the supposition hazarded by Horsley, that certain letters in the word *Lactodorum* compose a portion of its modern etymology, is equally groundless, as its post-roman name is obviously derived from the river Tove; yet the terminal adjunct of *cester* is an universally admitted indication of Roman origin. The Watling street, now the Chester road, passes through Towcester. From *ISANNAVARIA*, Burnt Walls, near *DAVENTRY*,* is xii miles; and to *Magiovinto*, or its supposed modern representative *Fenny Stratford*, xvi miles; the exact distances required by the numerals of Antoninus for the station of *Lactodorum*. The town stands between the Tove and a tributary rivulet from Wood Burcot. The former, approaching from Norton mill after crossing the Watling street at the north west end of the town, divides into two branches; the principal or old current by its artificial expansion ornaments Easton park, and the southern one, 'whose channel,' says Bridges, 'was cut within these hundred years,'^a encircles the foot of Berrymount and supplies the mill-dam. The rivulet crosses the road near the south western extremity of the town, and uniting with the Tove south of the re-union of the two branches, the coalesced waters flow on by Bosenham mill into the Ouse near Cosgrave. That Berrymount was the Roman castrum can scarcely be doubted. In the centre is a factitious elevation of earth and gravel, between twenty and thirty feet in height, and about one hundred feet in diameter; the whole is surrounded by a foss, and connects with a line of circumvallation which may even now be distinctly traced as indicated in the accompanying plan. Entering Tranter's close from the Watling street or Chester road, the foss is distinctly visible though nearly filled up, and the crest disturbed and partially obliterated; at the upper end of the field it takes an angular direction southward, the present hedge being on the western boundary, and continues in nearly a parallel line with the Watling street till it meets the Brackley road, crossing which, the Methodist Chapel stands on the left or eastern bank, whence it enters Harris's garden, where its western crest is still apparent; and after crossing Sawpit lane and a field belonging to the earl of Pomfret, enters Mr. Gilbert Flesher's close, and after traversing about half the width, takes an angular direction eastward, still visible, to Sawpit green, and though, owing to modern innovations no longer satisfactorily traceable beyond, yet evidently pointing into the town across the Watling street and along by the churchyard, where it would join the moat, now the mill stream, which encircles Berrymount, and terminate at the northern extremity opposite Tranter's close. Within this area the Romans fixed their station. Berrymount now occupying the site of the pretorium, the christian church probably supplanting the heathen basilica, and the modern market place, the ancient forum. Fragments of urns, Samian ware, and pottery were dug up on Berrymount in 1824; and not only there, but throughout the circuit described, coins have been disinterred on almost every occasion when the ground is opened for building, or agricultural purposes. Great numbers have been dispersed and lost, but the series collected by a resident gentleman (Mr. Deacon) includes Claudius, Nero, Vespasian, Domitian, Hadrian, Antoninus Pius, Marcus Aurelius, Alexander Severus, Gordian, Galienus, Victorinus, Tetricus, Dioclesian, Maximian, Carausius, Allectus, Licinius, Constantine, Constans, Constantius, Magnentius, Valens, and Gratian; and Faustina, wife of Antoninus Pius, Lucilla, wife of Verus, Julia Domna, wife of Severus, and Julia Mæsa, grandmother of Heliogabulus.

TOWCESTER.

A.D. 918 or 921.—After the lapse of nearly five centuries from the evacuation of the Romans, this place emerged under another name. In 921 before easter,^b or, according to Matthew of Westminster, in 918, Edward the Elder gave orders for re-building or fortifying "Tovecestre" and Wigmore in Herefordshire. And the same year, between Lammas and Midsummer, the Danes of Northampton and Leicester, violating the truce they had entered into with the king, sallied forth to the north, and also to Towcester, which they hoped to take by surprise, but the men who were within gallantly defended themselves till a reinforcement arrived, and at the close of the day the enemy abandoned the town and fled. The Danes still harassed Edward; and towards the close of harvest he marched with his West Saxon army to Passenham, and rested there to protect Towcester, whilst his men further fortified it by encompassing it with a stone wall. And there earl Thurforth came to the king with his followers, and all the army which belonged to Northampton north of the Welland, and sought his protection. The Roman line of circumvallation not improbably formed the basis of Edward's fortification, and perhaps first suggested the adoption of Towcester for one of the Saxon barriers against the incursions of the Danes.

Temp. WILL. CONQ.—The manor of "Tovecestre" was still retained by the crown after the Norman conquest, and was consequently surveyed as *Terra Regis*, or royal demesne. In point of extent and value it ranked in the first class; there was no mention of a priest, and consequently no presumptive evidence of a church. The parish, however, was founded in the Saxon era, as appears in the grant of the church by William the Conqueror to the abbey of St. Wandregisile or Fontenelle, in Normandy. The mill went to the knights templars of Jerusalem.

JOHN (1200). ST. LEONARD'S HOSPITAL. Simon de Pateshull, the sheriff of the county, in 2 Joh. (1200), rendered an account of 40s. to the LEPROUS BRETHREN of "Toucestr," of the gift of the king by writ to Geoffrey fitz-Peter.^c THE HOSPITAL, dedicated to St. Leonard for their reception, is presumed to have been already founded. By deed without date, Robert, son of Roger Forester, conveyed to Laurence, son of Simon Ters, an acre of land in the south field of "Tovecestr," between the land of Baldwin and the Leper's hospital of St. Leonard.^d

In 14 Edw.1 (1286), Robert de Barewe conveyed to sir William, son of Warine de Munchensi [Monte Caniso], an acre of land in "Tovecestr," of which two selions or half an acre lay on Karenam hill, between the land of the hospital

* Bridges, vol. 1, p. 272.

^b Chron. Sax. anno 921.^c Rot. Pip. 2 Joh.^d Fermor evidences.

* Vide vol. 1, p. 342.

of Towcester and the land of Geoffrey son of Ralph de Caudecoats, and the other half acre extending to the court of the said hospital.^a The exact site of the hospital is fixed by a deed in 40 Edw.3 (1366), near the bridge at the end of the town called the north bridge.^a Not a vestige remains; but when it was destroyed is unknown.

FURNAGE. HENRY III. In this reign a dispute arose between the lord of the manor and the tenants of Bradenstoke priory as to furnage, the tenants contending they were not bound to bake in or do service to the common oven of the lord.* On the death of William de Clinton, earl of Huntingdon, in 28 Edw.3 (1354), the profits of the oven were returned at 20s. yearly.^b In Michaelmas term, 32 and 33 Eliz. (1590), Sir George Fermor brought an action upon the case, against one Brooke, for erecting a bakehouse in "Tossiter," and declared that from time beyond memory there had been a manor of Tossiter, that all the land within the town was held of the manor of which he was lord, and that he and all his ancestors had used to have a bakehouse and a baker there to bake white bread and horse bread [house bread?] for all the inhabitants there, and strangers passengers, and that none during that time had used to have a bakehouse there but by their appointment. The defendant pleaded, that when he erected his bakehouse there were three bakers there, that he was an apprentice to the trade, and that he set up the bakehouse for the benefit of all persons, as it was lawful for him to do. The plaintiff had judgment; "for the custom is between the lord and his tenants which by indentment may have a good and lawful beginning; and peradventure their lands were given to them upon this condition: and it is reasonable that the lord maintaining a bakehouse, that for this charge they should have reasonable recompence."^c The lord's oven was in a place called Bakehouse lane, between High street and Berrymount. The common oven was used within memory, but the customary profits had been waived.

MARKET, &c. EDWARD I. The jurors on an inquisition of the privileges of Northampton in 3 Edw.1 (1275), and the encroachments made upon them, presented that notwithstanding it had been granted that no other market should be held within ten miles, yet (*int. al.*) Sir W. de Munchensi [Monchauxy] had a market in "Towcest," from what time, by what authority, or to what amount of damage to the commonalty of Northampton, they knew not; and in the following year the jurors of the hundred of Towcester certified that Munchensi had a gallows for the execution of criminals convicted in his court; and assise of bread and beer, appurtenant to view of frank pledge or court leet.^d

FAIR. EDWARD II. To the foregoing privileges of the lord, were added free warren and an annual fair on the vigil and day of St. Laurence,^e the patron saint of the church.

EDWARD III. In the third of this reign, the lord of Towcester was summoned by writ of *quo warranto* to prove his right to these immunities and privileges, and to show in what manner he had exercised them.^f The same year, Richard Cardoun, bailiff of Towcester, who held the market at farm from William de Clinton, was convicted before the justices itinerant, and fined for unjustly levying toll of persons purchasing corn for sustentation or seed, contrary to the custom of the market, which only permitted toll of corn bought for sale or merchandize.^g and John de Houghton, bailiff of the manor and hundred of Towcester, being charged before the said justices with extortion, the jurors presented that the manor together with the hundred was held of the king in capite, and that the bailiffs were anciently accustomed to hold view of frank pledge twice a year only, but that John had lately caused presentments to be made every three weeks to the damage and oppression of the people of the said hundred. He was adjudged, therefore, to pay a fine of 40*l.* to the king, and prohibited from holding the hundred court oftener than twice a year.^h

In 1544, Henry the eighth granted to the bailiffs, men, and inhabitants within the town of Towcester, two fairs yearly, one on the feast of St. Philip and St. James the Apostles (May 1st, O.S.), and the other on the feast of St. Luke the Evangelist (Oct. 18, O.S.).ⁱ In 1634, Charles the second granted to sir William Farmer, bart. and his heirs, a weekly market at Towcester, every Tuesday, and three yearly fairs; the first fair on the 23d of September, instead of a certain fair lately held on the feast of St. Laurence; the second fair on every Tuesday next before Ash Wednesday, commonly called Shrove Tuesday; and the third fair on the 22d of March, except either of the above days should fall on Sunday, in which case the fair shall be held on the Monday following.^j The market, and the fairs on Shrove Tuesday, May 12th, and October 29th, have continued to the present time, but the March and September fairs have fallen into desuetude.

NORTH BRIDGE OR SPITAL BRIDGE. 40 Edw.3 (1366). In Easter this year, Richard de Towcestre, John his brother, and ten others, with all the commonalty of the town of "Towcestr," by and with the unanimous consent of all the said town, appointed and constituted true and lawful procurators, to collect and receive the alms of the faithful for the repair of a certain bridge near the hospital and chapel founded in honor of St. Leonard, at the end of the said town of Towcester, commonly called the Northbridge; and the following indulgences were granted to all the faithful in of Towcester, contributing or procuring aid to the reparation of the said bridge, viz.: from John, bishop of Lincoln, twenty Christ contributing or procuring aid to the reparation of the said bridge, twenty days, from Walter, archbishop of Canterbury, twenty days, from Walter, bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, twenty days, from Henry, bishop of Lincoln, twenty days, and from Robert, days, from Roger, bishop of Salisbury, twenty days, from Henry, bishop of Lincoln, twenty days, and from Robert, days, from Roger, bishop of Salisbury, forty days.^k The burden of maintaining the bridge pressed heavily on the inhabitants, and they thus endeavoured to obtain the assistance of strangers, by enlisting religious feeling, and escape from ecclesiastical penances into their service. Of the above prelates, the last, and the most liberal of his spiritual favor, Robert de Wyville or Widelville, who presided over the see of Salisbury from 1330 to 1375, was the only one living at the date of the deed. John Dalderby was bishop of Lincoln from 1300 to 1319, Walter Langton, bishop of Coventry and Lichfield from 1295 to 1321, Walter Reynolds, archbishop of Canterbury from 1313 to 1327, Roger de Mortival, bishop of Salisbury from 1315 to 1329, and Henry Burghersh, bishop of Lincoln from 1320 to 1340. John Bokyngham, bishop of Lincoln, the contemporary diocesan, did not cast his spiritual mite into their treasury.

* Fermor evidence.
No. 37, p. 227, b. "Flac. Coron. 3 Edw.3."

† Fermor evidence.
Vide p. 317.

^b Esc. 29 Edw.3, n. 59.
^c Ibid. p. 229.

^d 1 Croke 203.

^e Rot. Pat. 23 May, 36 Hen.8.

^f Rot. Hund. 3 & 4 Edw.1.

^g Ibid. 21 Feb. 36 Car.2, p. 5.

^h Vide p. 314 & 315.

ⁱ Vide p. 315.

INNS. HENRY VI. The names of two of the inns occur in this and the succeeding reign. In 26 Hen.6 (1448), Robert Wale, of Towcestr, conveyed to William Alnwick bishop of Lincoln, Thomas Bourchier bishop of Ely, mast, Thomas Lane, clerk, and others, a tenement in Towcestr called "the Aungell," together with all lands in Towcestr, Burcote, and Caldecote, which he had of the feoffment of the said Thomas Lane.^a And in 23 Edw.4 (1473), Peter Emson, father of sir Richard, enfeofed sir Walter Mauntell, Richard Middleton, Henry Mauntell, Thomas Mauntell, William Newham, Richard Harowden, Edmond Dorne, Thomas Fortho, and John Asheby, esquires, and two others, in a tenement or burgage in Towcestr, called "le Bell," with lands thereto belonging.^a

29 Hen.6 (1451). The following family arrangement, dated 15th of July in this year, it is presumed will be considered deserving of preservation, as illustrative of the manners of the times. This indenture between "William Ekton and Agnes his wif of Towcestr and Thomas Ekton the son of the forsaide William of the same tounce berith witnesseth that the forsaide Thomas shal have a Mese w^t a gardeyne lying on the nether ende of Towcestr above seide w^t ij acres of lond in the felde of Burcote as it specifieth in a dede of feiffment to the forsaide Thomas his eyris and assigns for evermore and for this intent that the forsaide Thomas shal fynde the seide William and Agnes during her [their] lives—that is to say—mete and drink competent for her psones—also yerly a cartfull of wode and a c. of Barkers [Tanners clods] during the lives before seide. Also yerly to the forsaide William and Agnes ij yerdes of brode wollyn clothe seche as the seide Thomas werith hymself to the repacion of her bodyes. Also the makynge of the same ij yerdes to her use and pleasaunce to be paid be [by] the seide Thomas on his owne cost. Also yerly to the seide William and Agnes ij payre of hosen convenient to her degree. Also evy ij yere during the lif of the seide Williā to have ij payre of linnen clothes to his Were if it be needfull. Also yerly to the seide Agnes during her lif a smok. Also the forsaide Thomas shal fynde the seide Williā and Agnes shone [shoes] competent at her nede to kepe hem dryshode during the lives before seide. Also the for seide Thomas shal wynter and kepe vi shepe yerli of the seide Williā and Agnes during the lives before seide and all the pit of the seide shepe that is to say ther owne bodyes w^t ther lambes to be reserved to the pit of the seide Williā and Agnes. Also in the tyme of folding of the forsaide ij acres of lond yerly of these same vj shepe the seide Thomas shal have he who he liketh w^tout infruption to the making of the seide lond during the terme above seide. And to these covenants above seide welle and truly and faithfully to be observed and kept I Williā Ekton and Agnes my wif geve to the seide Thomas his eyrs and his assigns the Mese [&c. as before] and if the forsaide Thomas traverse or go fro any of these covenants above seide that than the forsaide Thomas his eyrs or his assigns shal forfeite be covenant to the seide Williā and Agnes x^{li} of lawful money of England. Into which wytnes to these pzent endentur ech of the parties have set to her seallys the date of the day the yere and the place above seide. These to wytnesse. William Chacombe &c."^a

STORM. 1573. Stow records a most violent storm of rain and hail at "Tocester," on the sixth of June, between one and two o'clock in the afternoon, by which six houses were "borne downe," and fourteen more "sore perished" and injured with the flood. The hailstones were square, and six inches round. One child was drowned, and a number of sheep and other cattle, some of which, when the water subsided, were lying on the high hedges where the flood left them.

CIVIL WAR. 1643. In the civil contention of the seventeenth century, Towcester bore a more prominent part than could have been anticipated from the absence of any claim to importance either from its size or situation. It was selected for the principal garrison of the royalists, to keep the Northampton parliamentarians in check. In the beginning of February, 1643, prince Rupert, with his brother Maurice, and the earl of Carnarvon, entered Northamptonshire, and after plundering Towcester and the neighbourhood, proceeded into Warwickshire.

In August, a party of about fifty horse were dispatched from Banbury under the command of capt. James Chamberlain, to levy contributions. Twenty went towards Northampton, and the remaining thirty, when within less than a mile of Towcester, met about one hundred and twenty parliamentarians, under capt. Lawson; and, notwithstanding the disparity of numbers, charged through them, and maintained a sharp conflict for more than half an hour. Captain Chamberlain received several wounds, and at length was shot dead through the head. He was youngest brother of sir Thomas Chamberlain, sheriff of Oxfordshire, and had distinguished himself in various engagements. Of the enemy, five were left dead on the field, and twenty severely, and the captain slightly, wounded.

Northampton had a garrison of two thousand men in October, and the parliamentarians were also in considerable force at Newport Pagnell. A considerable section of the royal army, commanded by prince Rupert, was quartered at Towcester, and constant skirmishes took place between the adverse parties. On one occasion, some of the Newport horse, headed by colonel Harvey, surprised Towcester in the night, slew the sentinels, killed about thirty men, took two colours and twenty prisoners, whom they brought to Newport without the loss of a single man, and only two slightly wounded. Rupert now resolved to fortify Towcester for a winter garrison, and issued the following warrant "to the officers of the hundred of Wimmerslily [Wymersley]: "By virtue of the Authority and Power giuin to me from our Sovereign Lord King Charles under the great Seale of England, as General under His Majesties Forces of Horse already raised within his Majesties Kingdom of England or Dominion of Wales, for the defence of the true Protestant Religion, His Majesties Person, the two Houses of Parliament and their just Privileges, the Liberties and Properties of the Subjects." "I doe strictly charge and command you and every of you, whom it may, or shall concerne, all delays, pretences, and excuses whatsoever set aside, immediately after the sight hereof, to send to Thomas Jay, His Majesties Commissary General for the provision of His Horse-forces lying at Ambrose Burton's house in Towcester over against the Talbot, all possible provision of Mans-meate and Horse-meate: And I doe also hereby strictly charge and command you in like manner to send in to Lieutenant Colonell Green, His Majesties Engineer, lying at the Signe of

^a Former evidences.

the *Petty Bridges* or the *Running Mare* in Towcester aforesaid, as many lusty Pioneers or Labourers, with shovels, spades, pickaxes, mattocks, and crowes of iron, handbarrows, bags, and baskets to carry earth in, as you can possibly finde and provide within your Constabulary; in the punctual performance of these my commands, for His Majesties present service, you, and every of you, whom it may or shall concerne, must in no waies faile, as you will answer the contrary at your utmost perils: as the totall plundering and burning of your Houses, with what other mischiefs the licensed and hungry souldiers can inflict upon you: And for so doing, this shall be to you and every of you sufficient warrant. Given at *Easton Parke* under my hand and seale at Arnes, the first day of *November*, Anno 1643." Rupert.

"The constables are required in person to give an account to the Commissary General and Engineer of their doings hereon." To protect these operations, which were prosecuted with vigour, the commission being enforced with the utmost severity, Rupert increased his forces to fourteen regiments by reinforcements from Oxford. "The Parliament Scout," one of the periodical tracts of that period, exclaims in anticipation, "if the town be fortified, then will Northampton be in a sad condition, for the souldiers of Northampton consisting most of foot, and that of Tossiter of horse, they cannot fetch in any provisions but with hazard of all their party, so suddenly will the enemy's horse be upon them, and therefore must the foxes be rooted out of that den if possible." These fears were realised. Northampton was "sadly neighboured" by the king's forces at Towcester, who drove the fields of all cattle, and forced the countrymen to thrash out the farmers' corn for them. About three hundred horse scoured the country in every direction, carrying off oxen, sheep, and provisions, and despoiling every thing valuable which they did not remove away; and a greater reserve of horse were in the rear, with seven pieces of ordnance, ready to act in case of necessity. On the 15th of November they advanced with ten troops and some infantry within a mile of Northampton, when the town forces sallied out, intending to attack them, and skirmished for some time, but desecring more troops in ambush, judged it most prudent to retreat. The amount of their pillage and forced contributions in this part of the county was estimated at £1000 daily, and sir Gilbert Pickering and Mr. John Crew, two of the parliamentary committee for Northamptonshire, were despatched to London to solicit additional military aid, and endeavour to procure pecuniary redress for the sufferers. "Poor Northamptonshire," apostrophises the writer already referred to, "especially the West division, as thou hast been a faithful pecee to the Parliament, so have thy miseries been great—what thy reward may be God knows."

Having made Towcester "very strong, and brought the water round about the town," prince Rupert left a strong garrison there, and advanced to Oxford in the beginning of December. His departure emboldened the Northampton forces to retaliate. On the night of the 8th, captains Butler and Wollaston, and two other captains, united their troops, and surprising their opponents' quarters at Duncot, near Towcester, killed about twenty, wounded several, and returned with about thirty prisoners, besides horses.

The junction of the Northampton and Newport forces, and the successful attack on *GRAFTON HOUSE*, have been detailed in a former page.* But Grafton was a secondary object; the primary one was the expulsion of the royalists from Towcester. With this view, major General Skippon, misled by information that the town was not completely fortified, and had in it only two troops of horse and four hundred foot, advanced from Newport, and arriving after a tedious and toilsome march at the rendezvous within a mile of the town, found the governor of Northampton [coloned Whitham] with a body of fourteen hundred horse and foot waiting to join him; but ascertaining on better authority that the town was in an efficient state of defence, and garrisoned with two thousand foot and eight pieces of ordnance, a council was held, and their numbers being considered inadequate to the enterprise, it was reluctantly abandoned, and the attack on Grafton substituted. Grafton surrendered on the 24th of December. No further general assault on Towcester was attempted; but on the 29th, Captain Clarke, with a party of horse from Northampton, surprised General Rivers and seven or eight officers of the garrison at Bradden, when playing at cards, and took them prisoners. The sergeant major, refusing to receive quarter, was killed. From this time no hostile movements are recorded; both parties stood at bay; and on the 18th of the following month (Jan. 1644), the royalists "slighted the works," and abandoned Towcester to join the royal army at Oxford. Prior to evacuating the town, they summoned the country to bring in carts to convey their stores and ammunition, and the news reaching the governor of Northampton, a party of horse was despatched under major Lawson, who fell upon the rear of the enemy as they were marching out of the town, drove them back into it, and succeeded in taking several prisoners; but one of them, not being disarmed, shot him in the arm with a slug, and he died of hemorrhage before he had proceeded two miles on his return. The continued occupation of Towcester was a point of considerable importance; though subjected to constant harassing incursions from Northampton, the enemy had never been able to muster courage or force sufficient to attempt its capture. It was the only royal garrison throughout the county of Northampton; and this sudden desertion must nearly, if not solely, be attributed to the necessities of the king requiring the concentration of his central forces at Oxford, where he had established his court, and summoned all the members of both houses of parliament who still adhered to his interests.

The parliamentarian army under Sir William Waller, and the royal forces commanded by the king himself, were manœuvring in this and the adjacent counties in June. A detachment of a troop or two from Northampton, under major Lydoot, attacked a party of royalists near Towcester on the 24th, killed five and twenty who refused quarter, and secured a number of prisoners. Both armies faced each other in battle array on the 28th—the king in Grimsbury field, and Waller on the opposite bank of the Charwell. The following morning, Waller having taken a decidedly advantageous position near Banbury, the king drew off towards Daventry, leaving a strong guard of dragoons at Cropedy bridge, the pass over the Charwell between the two armies. Waller, attempting to cross the bridge, was repulsed with much loss, and chased to a considerable distance; but, rallying again, formed a junction with major general Brown a

* Vide *GRAFTON*, p. 175 *seq.*

TOWCESTER HUNDRED.

few days after (July 2) on a large common within a mile of Towcester, where they remained the whole of the next day, and entered Northampton the day following with seven thousand horse and foot.

At the corresponding period of the succeeding year (June, 1645,) the two principal armies of the contending parties occupied nearly the same relative positions. The king fixed his head quarters at Daventry* on the 7th. Sir Thomas Fairfax, at the head of the parliamentary army, entered Newport Pagnel the same day. From Stony Stratford a detachment was sent forward under colonel Butler to Towcester, which became the head quarters of the general on the 12th, the advanced guard being at Kilsingbury. On the night of the 13th the king was at Lubenham, Fairfax at the Gulsborough, and the following morning witnessed the sanguinary conflict on the memorable field of Naseby.

In January, 1646, Towcester was the head quarters of colonel Whaley's brigade of horse, consisting of his own regiment, the general's, and commissary Ireton's, and three troops of colonel Ogle's dragoons, all which, with colonel Morgan's foot regiment, lay there and in the adjacent villages of Norton, Slapton, and Bradden. One of the troopers mounting guard at Biddlesden (23 Jan.), having learnt that a foraging party from the royal garrison at Banbury was levying contributions and fetching men into the garrison, a detachment of horse was sent against them, who dispersed them and took in the pursuit four prisoners, and twelve horses which had been taken from countrymen were restored to their owners. The prisoners, when brought to Towcester, told the colonel that three troops commanded by captains Clark, Colebrook, and James, had left Banbury a few days before to the relief of Oxford. On the last day of the month colonel Whaley marched from Towcester, and being joined near Fimmere by a body of foot from Northampton, Coventry, and other places, made an attack on Banbury, and entering the town, broke the chain, and took several prisoners, and horses. Towcester furnishes no further incidents connected with the public history of the kingdom.

THE TOWN is eight miles from Northampton. The principal street, formed by the Chester road, is wide and well built, and being a great thoroughfare abounds with inns two, so early as the fifteenth century have been already noticed.

On the 25th of March, 1749, between nine and ten o'clock at night, a calamitous fire broke out at the George inn, occasioned by a boy going into the yard with a lighted candle, which accidentally igniting some straw near the stable door, he, hoping to conceal his negligence, kicked the straw into the stable, and the fire communicating to the building, raged with such fury, that in a few hours thirty-six dwelling houses, besides barns and out offices, were consumed, to the damage of nearly £2000.^a

By the spirited exertions of a private company, the town has been recently lighted by gas.

In the time of Bridges there were 'about three hundred and fifty families.'^b By the census of 1801, Towcester contained 424 houses and 2030 inhabitants; by that of 1811, Towcester, including Caldecott, Handley, and Wood Barcot hamlets, contained 465 houses and 2245 inhabitants; by that of 1821, 529 houses and 2554 inhabitants; and by that of 1831, 542 houses and 2671 inhabitants. The annual quota of land tax for this parish is £305, 13s. 2d. at 4s. in the £. The estimated value of real property, as assessed to the property tax of 10 per cent. for the year ending April, 1815, amounted to £7500.

TOWCESTER UNION. The poor rates for the year ending Easter, 1832, raised £2292.17s.11d. at 8s.6d. in the £. The average expenditure on the poor for the years 1832 to 1835, amounted to £2048. On the 20th of May, in the latter year, Towcester was brought under the regulation of the Poor Law Amendment Act, and placed at the head of an Union comprising the following twenty-three parishes and townships:—1 Towcester, 2 Abthorp, 3 Cold Higham, 4 Gayton, 5 Pattishall or Pateshull, and 6 Tiffield, in Towcester hundred; 7 Stoke Bruern, 8 Shuttlechanger, and 9 Easton Neston, with Hulcot, in Cleley hundred; 10 Blisworth, in Wymersley hundred; 11 Adstone, 12 Blakesley, 13 Woodend, 14 Bradden, 15 Greens Norton, 16 Maidford, 17 Plampton, 18 Slapton, 19 Silverstone, and 20 Whittlebury, in Norton hundred; 21 Wappenham, in Sutton hundred; 22 Litchborough in Fawsley hundred; and 23 Loya Weedon or Weedon Pinkeney, in Norton hundred; four guardians to be elected annually for the parish of Towcester, two each for the parishes of Abthorp, Pateshull, Greens Norton, and [hamlet of] Silveston, two for the hamlet of Shuttlechanger, and one each for the other parishes and places. Under the new centralizing system, the inconvenience of parochial workhouses widely scattered and too small for classification was speedily felt, and a small field south of the street in Towcester, leading to Brackley, was purchased by the guardians, where a commodious Union Workhouse has been erected, calculated to accommodate two hundred inmates, at an expense of £5000. The building is of oolite stone from the adjoining hamlet of Foscoate, and the design was furnished by Mr. George Gilbert Scott, of London, with a special view to organised arrangement and efficient supervision.

The poor rates for the last year ending Easter, 1839, amounted to £1667. 8s. 10d. at 4s. 9d. in the £. on the new assessment.

ANDVOSON. William (the conqueror) duke of Normandy and king of England, for the redemption of his soul, and the health of his wife and sons, and for the love of Guncard his chaplain one of the monks there, gave to the abbey of Fontanelle, constructed in honor of St. Wandregisile, four churches in England, with all their titles and customs, so as the antecessor of Guncard held them in the time of his antecessor of blessed memory king Edward (the confessor); two of which churches, Wincherte [Whitchurch] and Bridetune [Bridport], were in the county of Dorset; the third, Seorestan, in the county of Wiltshire; and the fourth, "Tovecestre," in the county of "Northantesire."^c And that this donation might be valid and firm, he authorised his proper seal to it, imprecating anathema and malediction on all who should violate or disturb it. In 1255 (14 Edw.1), Geoffrey the abbot, and the convent of Wandregisile, granted to the prior and convent of Bradenstoke all and singular those things which they had or could in any wise have in the parish of "Tovecestr," in the diocese of Lincoln, and in "Brideton," with all their appurtenances in meadows, feedings, pastures,

* Northampton Mercury.

^b Br. 1 p. 272.

^c Mon. Ang. 2 p. 974.

* Vide DAVENTRY, vol. 1, p. 324.

watermills, pensions of the churches of the aforesaid places, with the advowsons and right of patronage thereof, in exchange for lands belonging to the said priory in Rogervilla and Sandovilla, in the diocese of Rouen,^a in Normandy; which exchange was confirmed by royal charter in the same year.^a In March, 1326 (19 Edw.2), Hugh le Despencer lord of Glamorgan, wrote to the bishop of Lincoln that the church of "Tovecester" having become vacant, he had in right of the lands of Sir John de Hastings, who was in his wardship, presented a clerk, but having subsequently examined the muniments of the convent of Bradenstoke, he had ascertained that he had no right, and therefore revoked the presentation.^b

By letters patent 20 Aug. 1 Edw.6 (1547), the king, in performance of the last will of his father Henry VIII., and of an agreement in a tripartite indenture dated 9 July last, between himself of the first part, his uncle the duke of Somerset and the executors of his father's will of the second part, and Richard (Sampson) bishop of Coventry and Lichfield of the third part, and in consideration of the manors of Longdon, Beaudesert, Rugeley, Heywood, Barkseswyk, and Cannock, and parks of Beaudesert and Heywood in the county of Stafford, and of other lands in Cannock and Leyercroft, and the wood called Canke Wood alias Out Cannocksbury, in the said county, having been granted by the said bishop to the king his father by deed dated 29 Sept. 38 Hen.8 (1546); granted to the said bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, all the advowsons and right of patronage of the rectories and parish churches of Woolstanton in Staffordshire, Belgrave in Leicestershire, Pightlesley, Buckby, and Toucester in Northamptonshire, and Town Merion and chapels of Llanhagell, Tahan, and Tennaip in the bishopric of Bangor, the advowson of the perpetual college of Gnosall in Staffordshire, and all the advowsons and prebends of Nordall, Stilwohull, Beverley-hall, and Chilton-hall to the said college belonging, which said rectories, chapels, prebends, glebes, tithes, oblations, obventions, and other profits were extended at the clear yearly value of £183. 8s. 1d½, the tenth part deducted, to hold to the said bishop and his successors for ever, in pure and perpetual alms, rendering yearly after the death, resignation, or deprivation of the present incumbents, for the rectory of Woolstanton £3. 10s. 10d½, Belgrave £4. 7s. 6d½, Pightlesley £3. 0s. 1d½, Buckby £3. 1s. 2d, Toucester £4. 8s. 8d, Townmerion and chapels £6. 1s. 10d, Nordall 2s, Beverley-hall 2s, and Chetwon [Chilton] hall 2s. 8d, and the further sums yearly of £5. 6s. 8d, for the rectory of Belgrave, 6s. 8d, for Pightlesley, and 2s. for Toucester, for all rents and services, &c.; and moreover for the considerations aforesaid, by his royal supreme authority and by the church which he governed, he appropriated, consolidated, united and incorporated the said rectories and churches of Woolstanton, Belgrave, Pightlesley, Buckby, Toucester, Town Merion, and chapels of Llanhagell, Taledon, and Pearall, college of Gnosall and prebends of Mordell, Sommershall, Beverley-hall, and Chilton-hall, with their pertinencies, and all and singular manors, messuages, lands, tenements, glebes, tithes, oblations, and emoluments whatsoever, as well spiritual as temporal, to the said rectories, college, and prebends belonging, to the said bishop and his successors after the death of the incumbents, to hold, enjoy, and convert the said rectories, churches, chapels, college, and prebends to the said bishop and his successors, to their own proper use without any presentation, nomination, induction of any incumbents to the said rectories, churches, chapels, college and prebends to be hereafter made; and he also willed and ordained, that when first the said rectories of Woolstanton, Belgrave, Pightlesley, Buckby, Toucester, and Town Merion, should happen to be vacant, or when the said bishop and his successors had for the first time obtained possession of the said rectories, &c. the said bishop and his successors should for ever nominate and present to every of the said churches so happening to become vacant, or to come into their possession, divers clerks fit and approved by the ordinary to the said several churches separately, which said clerks so nominated and presented, and by the said ordinary canonically instituted and inducted, should from thenceforth be singly and separately perpetual vicars of the churches whereunto they are severally presented and inducted; and he separately and singly incorporated the said several vicars, and declared them and their successors to be separately and singly incorporated in fact and name; which said vicars should be in lieu of the rectors of the said churches, and should separately have the cure of souls within the said parishes, and should do and perform the other offices which heretofore did or might pertain to the office of rectors within the said churches, and should severally bear the charges, ordinary and extraordinary, to the said churches severally pertaining, except in the repairs of chancels, which he willed and ordained to be sustained and paid by the said bishop and his successors at their perpetual costs from time to time; he willed also that the bishop and his successors should assign to every vicar of the said churches, a fit and competent manse or house, which said house or manse should for ever belong to the said vicar and his successors to inhabit. Moreover he ordained that the said bishop and his successors should for ever distribute, or cause to be distributed amongst the poor parishioners of each church so happening to become vacant, a certain reasonable sum of money arising from the fruits of such church, extending in the whole to the sum of five pounds, to be limited and assigned by the bishop and diocesan of the place. Also he willed and granted that the said vicars and their successors might by the several names of the vicars of the said churches, prosecute, claim, plead and be impleaded, defend and be defended, in all courts and places whatsoever in the realm, in and upon all and singular causes; and that they and every of them might be able and capable in law by their several names to give, grant, and purchase lands, tenements, &c. to them and their successors for ever, and to do for themselves and their successors all things which the rectors of the same churches might lawfully perform or do; and he also willed that the said bishop or his successors, on the appropriation of the said churches and of each of them, should take care that each of those churches be endowed with a fit, convenient, and churches and of each of them, should take care that each of those churches be endowed with a fit, convenient, and reasonable portion and pension for the provision and sustentation of the said vicar and his successors, and to support all other burdens and charges incumbent on the said vicar; viz. the said vicarage of Woolstanton with an annual pension or portion extending to the sum of £10 yearly, the vicarage of Belgrave with an annual portion or pension extending to the sum of £13.6s.8d. yearly, the vicarage of Pightlesley with an annual pension extending to the sum of £10.

^a Cotton MSS. Vitellius A. xi. fo. 168.

^b Ibid. fo. 170.b.

yearly, the vicarage of Towcester with an annual pension extending to the sum of £13.6s.8d. yearly, the vicarage of Buckley with an annual pension extending to the sum of £10 yearly, and the vicarage of Town Meryon with an annual pension extending to the sum of £20. yearly, the statute of mortmain notwithstanding: and he also ordained by these presents, that the vicars of the said several churches should from time to time be charged and chargeable, as well with the yearly rent or tenth part of their vicarages, as with the "primitiis" or first-fruits of those churches when they accrue, in the same manner as other vicars or rectors of other churches in the kingdom of England are charged.^a

The impropriation is demised on lease, but

THE ADVOWSON OF THE VICARAGE continues vested in the bishop of Lichfield and Coventry.

THE RECTORY was rated in the taxations of 1254 (38 Hen.3),^b and of 1291 (20 Edw.1),^c at 40 marks (£26. 13s. 4d.) *per ann.* deducting a pension of 35s. to the prior of Bradenstoke, and at the ecclesiastical survey of 1535 (26 Hen.8), at £46. 12s. 3d. *per ann.* deducting 10s. 7d. for synodals and procurations to the archdeacon of Northampton, and 35s. rents resolute paid to the lord of the manor.^d These rents resolute appear to have been the old pension of the prior of Bradenstoke, and granted to the lord of the manor at the suppression of the religious houses.^e

By the grant from king Edward VI. to the bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, the rectory was annexed in perpetuity to that see, and converted into a lay impropriation, which is demised on lease for three lives. The impropriate or great tithes to which the bishop or his lessee was entitled out of the open fields of "Towcester with Wood Burcot and Caldecote," were commuted under the inclosure act, with consent of the bishop and lessee and the proprietors of the lands, for an annual rentcharge of £200. free from all deductions (except the land-tax), secured on an allotment of 247a. 2r. 11p. of land to the earl of Pomfret in lieu thereof, and charged by way of further security on all the other allotments to the said earl in the open fields. The bishop or his lessee continues entitled to the impropriate tithes of the old inclosures in Towcester with Wood Burcot and Caldecote not exonerated under the inclosure act, and the impropriate tithes of the hamlet of Hanley, the parish of Abthorp with Foscoate and Challock, and the two woods called Burcot Wood and Benley Wood, both now converted into tillage. In addition to the tithes, there are three houses adjoining the old tithe barn and abutting on the vicarage garden, appurtenant to the impropriation. The present lessee is Richard Hurd Lucas, esq.

THE VICARAGE is in the deanry of Brackley. This vicarage, one of the few instances of Protestant foundation by authority of the king as supreme head of the church, and apparently without the privity or consent of the ordinary, was created under the grant of the rectory to the bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, and endowed with a pension to the amount of £13. 6s. 8d. yearly.* The vicar at the time of the inclosure in 1763, was considered to be entitled to certain vicarial tithes throughout the parish, with some special exceptions, and also to a certain quantity of corn payable to him by the impropriator or his lessee; it is presumed therefore that by the act or deed of endowment consequent on the grant, they were settled on the vicarage as equivalent to a pecuniary stipend of the sum there specified. In 1639 when bishop Wright renewed the impropriate lease to sir Robert Banastre,† he reserved on the petition of John Lockwood the vicar, a perpetual rent charge of £10. yearly in augmentation of the vicarage.‡ The parliamentary commissioners in 1655 certified that Towcester was a vicarage presentative worth £24. yearly, and an augmentation of [blank] had been granted, which was fit to be continued; that Mr. Walwyne, the incumbent, discharged the cure; that there was a small hamlet called Hethencot within three quarters of a mile, which was a member of Paulerspury, the tithes of which were reputed to be worth £30. yearly; and they conceived it fitting that this hamlet should be taken from Paulerspury, which was a great parsonage, and united to Towcester, it being nearer than Paulerspury.§ The suggestion was not adopted, or if it were, only temporarily so, during the interregnum. In 1678 bishop Wood charged the impropriate estate with a further addition of £20. yearly to the vicarage;¶ and in 1738 it was augmented by Queen Anne's bounty with £200. to meet a benefaction of £100. from Edward (Chandler) bishop of Durham, and £100. part of Mrs. Palmer's legacy, which sums have been vested in 6a. 2r. 10p. of land in Silveston, and 22a. 2r. of land in Paulerspury. The commissioners of inclosure allotted to the vicar and his successors, 67a. 2r. 18p. of land discharged from land tax, parish levies and parish rates to church and poor, and highways and all other rates and duties whatsoever, in lieu of all manner of tithes and tenths and other dues arising out of the open fields of Towcester with Wood Burcot and Caldecote, and out of the houses, gardens, homesteads, orchards, and old inclosures in the places aforesaid, belonging to persons who were owners of the open fields or cottage commons (except the two meadows called Normill holmes and a slip of ground called Spittle meadow, which are exempt from tithe), and of a yearly rent of four quarters of wheat and four quarters of malt, heretofore received from the bishop or his lessee; the vicar remaining entitled as before, to the vicarial tithes of houses, homesteads, and old inclosures within the manor of Towcester with Wood Burcot and Caldecote, belonging to persons who were not owners of open field land or cottage commons; to the yearly sum of £30. payable by the bishop or his lessee out of the impropriate tithes; to the vicarial or other dues and payments out of the hamlet of Hanley and parish of Abthorp, and out of two gardens called Berry Hill garden and the Bear garden, and the gardens of widow Johnson, Richard Allen, and Thomas Allen. The vicar receives a payment of £2. yearly for the vicarial tithes or dues of Hanley, and a rent charge of £6. yearly out of the vicarage of Abthorp, awarded by the commissioners of inclosure in lieu of the vicarial rights there, whilst a member of Towcester parish.

The vicarage-house or manse assigned in pursuance of the grant of the rectory, stands south-west of the church-yard.

* Rot. Pat. 20 Aug. 1 Edw. 6, p. 6.

† Cotton MSS. Nero D. x. fo. 179.

‡ Tex. Eccl. p. 38.

§ Augm. Off.

¶ Br. 1 p. 279.

† Par. Reg.

‡ Lambeth MSS. vol. 20.

* Vide p. 323.

† Vide PARSENHAM, p. 190.

RECTORS. *William Laudri*, by the abbot and convent of St. Wandregisile.

John de Estiando, subdeacon, 1258.

Benedict Cajetan, a native of Aregni in Campagna di Roma. Being a man of boundless intrigue and ambition, he prevailed on the recently elected Pope Celestine, by the most insidious suggestions, to abdicate the papal dignity, and having succeeded in procuring his own election at Naples, in 1294, he assumed the name of BONIFACE VIII. One of the first acts of his pontificate was to seize his predecessor, and imprison him for life under pretence of preventing any evil-disposed persons from making his claims a plea for raising commotions in the church. Italy, at this period was harassed by the contending factions of the Guelphs and the Gibellines, the former supporting the interest of the pope, and the latter of the emperor of Germany; and two of the Gibelline cardinals having endeavored to excite the public feeling against Boniface on account of the duplicity and artifice by which he had supplanted Celestine, alleging amongst other things that he had hired a impostor who in an unusual and oracular tone, as if from heaven, had admonished the simple Celestine to surrender the pontificate for the good of the church, he became so incensed that on their disobeying his summons he deprived them of all their dignities and possessions, and sought to secure their persons, but after being besieged in Palestina they escaped to Rieti. The commander who defended them in the siege, falling, in his flight, into the hands of certain pirates, chose rather to labour at the oar than subject himself to the pope's cruelty; who had conceived such a hatred to the Gibellines that when Prochetus archbishop of Genoa prostrated himself at his feet on Ash Wednesday, instead of casting ashes on his head, as was customary, with the words "Remember, man, thou art ashes, and to ashes thou must return," he threw the ashes into his eyes, and exclaimed "Man, thou art a Gibelline, and as such thou shalt with thy brotherhood return into ashes," and deprived him of his archbishopric. Desirous of engaging the European sovereigns in a general crusade, he attempted to effect a reconciliation between the kings of France and England, but failed in his mediation, though enforced by the threat of excommunication; a threat which he carried into execution against the former king in a bull wherein he claimed temporal as well as spiritual supremacy, and declared the French crown forfeited. The bull was publicly burnt by order of an assembly of the clergy and nobility at Paris, and king Philip resolving on revenge for the indignity, dispatched Serra of Columna and Norgaret to Rome for the ostensible purpose of lodging an appeal to the apostolic court, professing to consider the see vacant, but with the secret intent of entrapping his holiness: Sarra, accordingly, went privily into the Campagna di Roma disguised as a slave, and having collected a party of Gibellines, they surprised the pope at his house at Anagni, and forcing the doors, took him prisoner, and carried him to Rome, where after a month's confinement, a fever brought on by rage and vexation, terminated his turbulent existence on the 12th of Oct. 1303. He added the *Sextus Decretalium* as a supplement to the five books of the canon law which were extant before. In 1300 he instituted the first jubilee, in which he

gave a full pardon to all who should visit the apostle's tomb, and commanded that it should be observed every hundredth year. Such was his inordinate pride and ambition that he would sometimes appear in the pontifical and sometimes in the imperial robes. His cruelties and excesses obtained for him the appellation of the eighth Nero; and it was observed of him that he entered the see like a fox, ruled like a lion, and died like a dog. On his elevation to the papal chair, he resigned this rectory, and appointed his successor.

William de Botivineca, professor of canon law, who, on the 10th of June, 1295, came and showed to the bishop of Lincoln the letters of the pope stating that he had, by the apostolical authority, conferred the said church upon him, and he was admitted accordingly.^a

William de Cornubia, rector of Towcester, had the king's letter of protection, 11 Dec. 1295.^b

Thomas de Peessey, subdeacon, by the prior and convent of Bradenstoke, 9 Aug. 1307.

Mast. Walter de Boughton, acolyte, 10 June, 1326.

Laurence de Stratton, priest, 7 Feb. 1353. He exchanged for the rectory of Steeple Langford, Wilts, with

Mast. John de Waltham, priest, 1 Nov. 1366. He was also rector of Courtenhall. He exchanged for the rectory of Brampton Patrick, co. York, with

Robert Palmere, priest, 15 May, 1369.

Andrew Taylor, priest, by William Worston, of co. Wilts, 4 May, 1396.

Mast. Thomas Worston, L.L.B., priest, 16 Jan. 1396-7.

John Aylestone, priest, 28 April, 1408.

William Blackwell, priest, 3 July, 1408.

John Locklaw, 3 May, 1409.

Richard Brinche, priest, 12 Mar. 1409-10.

John Wyntryngham, priest, 23 Feb. 1412.

William Typpe, clerk, 6 Apr. 1414.

William Sponne, priest, 6 June, 1422. He was rector of Hevingham and Blofeld, co. Norfolk, but resigned the latter rectory on being collated to the archdeaconry of Norfolk by Corston annexed, 21 Dec. 1419. His monument, his chantry, and his benefactions to this town, will be subsequently noticed.

Thomas Taylard, priest, 13 Feb. 1447. He has already occurred under Little Billing and Barby.

Sir Thomas Ninehed.

Sir Nicholas Rawdon, priest, 28 Dec. 1456.

John Chelworth, clerk, 22 Dec. 1461. He was collated to the archdeaconry of Northampton in 1457, and removed in 1464 to the archdeaconry of Lincoln, which he held till his death in 1471.

Mast. John Russell, L.L.D. 13 Aug. 1471. He was tutor to Edward prince of Wales, consecrated bishop of Rochester, 20 Sept. 1476, translated to Lincoln, Sept. 1480, and died Jan. 1494.

Mast. Lawrence Cockys, priest, 21 Sept. 1476.

Christopher Fisher, 4 July, 1501.

Lancelot Collins, or *Collinson*, by Christopher (Bainbridge) archbishop of York, cardinal of St. Praxed, by grant from the prior and convent of Bradenstoke, 20 Dec. 1512.

William Tresham, D.D. 28 Feb. 1539. In 1541 he obtained the rectory of Bugbrook, where a brief notice of him has been introduced.

^a Lansdown MSS. 1028. fo. 265. b.

^b Rot. Pat. 24 Edw.1. m. 22.

VICARS. *Sampson Hawkshurst*, occurs vicar, 1569.

William Johnson, presented by the bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, on the decease of the last incumbent, and instituted 25 Mar. 1591.

Sampson Hawkshurst. His death introduced

Francis Bradley, A.B. who was inst. 31 Aug. 1599. He was buried here 17 Aug. 1634,^a and

John Lockwood, A.M. was inst. 13 Nov. following. He was youngest son of Richard Lockwood, of Gayton, esq. Being a zealous royalist, and present at the battle of Naseby, where he was wounded, he was deprived of his preferment, and replaced by

Ralph Punn, who occurs in 1650.

Robert Walwyn, was the officiating minister in 1655. He was author of a compendious system of divinity, entitled, *A particular View of the Fundamentals of the Christian Religion*. 1660. 8vo. There is a small engraved portrait of him, inscribed "The Portraiture of Robt. Walwyn, late Minister of Towcester in y^e county of Northampton." He was buried here 17 June, 1659.^a

John Henley, was vicar in 1662, and again inst. 13 Jan. 1673, having probably resigned when he obtained the vicarage of Salmonby in Lincolnshire. He had been educated at a dissenting academy, and conformed at the Restoration. He was father of rev. Simon Henley, vicar of Melton Mowbray, co. Leicester, who was baptised here 12 Aug. 1664^a and grandfather of the celebrated Orator Henley.

Nathaniel Parr, occurs vicar 1676.

Nathaniel Ellison, of Corp. Christi coll. Oxf. A.M. 1678,

and B. & D.D. 1702, was inst. 30 Dec. 1680. He was chaplain to the bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, who installed him archdeacon of Stafford in 1682. On his resignation,

Charles Palmer, of Linc. coll. A.M. was inst. 23 June, 1685. He published, a *Fast Sermon on Isa. lix. v. 8*. Oxf. 1702, 4to. A *Persuasive to Parochial Communion*, in two parts; also, a *Dissuasive from Imprecations and Cursing*. Lond. 1702 & 1706, 4to. A *Defence of Passive Obedience*. 1710. 8vo. He was buried here 12 Dec. 1734, aged 72 years,^a and

John Radd, of Trin. coll. Oxf. A.M. 1728, B.D. 1740, was inst. 23 Apr. 1735. He died at Barton, co. Warwick, 19 Oct. 1782, in his 78th year, and was buried there. His successor,

Francis Meeke, of Christ coll. Camb. A.M. was inst. 12 Feb. following. He held this benefice only two years,

Francis Lemaire, of Wadham coll. Oxf. A.M. being inst. 10 June, 1784. His death introduced

Littleton Powys, of Emanuel coll. Camb. L.L.B. younger brother of Thomas, first lord Lilford, who was inst. 5 Sept. 1806. He was rector of Pilton 1772 to 1773, vicar of Lilford 1772 to 1825, rector of Aldwinckle St. Peters 1773 to 1788, rector of Achurch 1778 to 1825, rector of Titchmarsh 1788 to 1805, and vicar of Towcester from 1806 till his death. His successor,

Thomas Sanders, of Chr. Ch. coll. Oxf. A.M. was inst. 5 Jan. 1826. He resigned on obtaining the vicarage of Stanford, Berkshire, and

Abel John Ram, of Oriel coll. Oxf. A.M. was inst. 25 Sept. 1834.

THE COMMUNION PLATE consists of a large basin about 1ft. 9in. diameter, and ewer double gilt, inscribed "This Basin and Ewer is given for the perpetual use and ornament of the church of Towcester in the county of Northampton, the 25th of March, 1755, by Henrietta Louisa, daughter of John Lord Jeffreys and widow of Thomas Farnor Earl of Pomfret, Baron of Lemsterp, Master of the Horse to Queen Caroline, Ranger of the two parks of Hyde and St. James's, Knight of the Bath, &c. for whose christening it was made use of March 31st, 1698, as also at that of his eldest daughter, Sophia, June 3d, 1721, who became the wife of John Carteret Earl of Granville, Lord President of the Council, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, principal Secretary of State, Knight of the Garter, &c. &c. &c." A silver chalice and cover, the gift of William Slater of London, with W.S. and arms, a chevron between three trefoils; And a silver flagon the gift of Mrs. Philippa Russell in 1636, inscribed "P. R. Deo et Ecclesie."

THE PARISH REGISTERS commence in 1561.

THE CHURCH dedicated to St. Lawrence, not improbably, as previously hinted, occupies the site of the Roman basilica. It is a handsome edifice, consisting of a tower, thirty yards in height, nave, north and south aisles, south porch, and chancel. The tower originally contained five bells, to which Mr. William Henchman contributed another in 1726, to complete a peal of six bells. The tower has angular buttresses of five stages. The west entrance is under an ogee arch and finial, with narrow trefoil-headed pannels in the spandrels, enclosed within a square-headed dripstone finished by plain returns. The western window of the south aisle has two lights only, the other four are of three lights trefoil headed in a four-centered arch. The window at the east end is of a peculiar character, the two lateral lights being very wide and cinquefoil headed to the arch, and the central division of two lights trefoiled, the mullions running through to the arch, and the intermediate spaces doubly trefoiled. The north aisle has four windows of three lights, corresponding with those on the south side, but the window at the east end is of three equal lights, with plain arched returns in the head. There are ten clerestory windows on each side, the five eastern ones extending into the chancel. The tower and aisles derive an additional architectural interest from the comparatively unusual circumstance of the date of their erection, or rather re-erection, being authenticated. They were commenced in the reign of Edward IV. who gave to the parishioners of "Toucestre in reliefe of the grete importable costs and charges by the said parishens steuigned in buylding and reparacione of their steeple, church, and church-yerde, as moche stone as they shulde hapen to fynde within the circuyt and compasse of 40 feet every way square, within any place in his querrye in the baillifwyke of Hanley in the forest of Whitelwode,"^b The works were not completed before the accession of Richard III. who in the first year of his reign, confirmed the grant of his predecessor.^b The chancel is of the Decorated style of the third Edward. The north and south sides have an uniform window of three lights, trefoiled, with quatrefoils and of the third Edward. The north and south sides have an uniform window of three lights, trefoiled, with quatrefoils and elongated trefoils in the heading of the arch. The east window is of five lights trefoiled, with sizefoils or double trefoils

^a Par. Reg.

^b Harleian MSS. No. 433. art. 1787.

in the heading. The tower is 19ft. 3in. long by 16ft. 5in. wide; the nave and aisles are 57ft. 2in. long, the nave 19ft. 9in., the north aisle 20ft. 3in., the south aisle 20ft. 3in. wide; and the chancel 60ft. long by 20ft. wide. The interior, in its successive embellishments, opens a wide and pleasing field of commendation. At the west end of the nave is a handsome gallery of oak in panels; on the centre one "Henrie Newby, Citizen and Haberdasher of London, born in this towne of Towcester, one of the sones of George Newby late of this towne Woollendrapper, for the glory of God and a faire ornament for this parish church at his own proper cost and charges erected this Gallery A.D. 1627." Two side galleries were added in 1793 and extended in 1836. "The R.^d Hon. George Earl of Pomfret gave the Organ for the use and ornament of this church A.D. 1817." This large and beautiful instrument, once graced Fonthill, the far-famed but evanescent residence of W. Beckford, esq. Along the base of the west gallery is inscribed "This Church was repaired and the Galleries enlarged A.D. 1836, and thereby made capable of seating 1176 persons, and in consequence of a grant from the Incorporated Society for Promoting the Enlargement, Building, and Repairing Churches and Chapels, 678 of that number are hereby declared to be free and unappropriated for ever. A. J. Ram, Vicar, John Franklin & John Webb, churchwardens." There are five pews awarded to Hanley, two to Wood Bureot, and three to Caldecote. Nearly £2000 have been expended in the recent internal arrangements and improvements, inclusive of the liberal donation of velvet cushions for the pulpit, reading-desk, and communion-table by William Deacon, esq. and the richly painted east window of the chancel, exhibiting in the centre full-sized figures of our Saviour, between Moses and St. John the baptist on the right and St. John the evangelist and St. Paul on the left, the joint contribution of Mrs. Sahin and John Lovell, esq. The roof by Bernasconi, in square compartments diagonally divided, with angels holding blank shields for the springers, cost £500. The old open timber roof of the chancel, put up by sir Robert Banastre in 1640, is still retained. The dividing arcades between the nave and aisles are of a date long anterior to the external walls, and are relics of the original building. There are four pointed arches on each side, on octagonal pillars with shallow capitals; some of plain mouldings following the faces; others, slightly ornamented. In the north wall of the north aisle is a small arched door and staircase, formerly leading to the rood loft. Bridges says²⁶ at the upper end of the south ile, a chapel belonging to the chantry which was founded by *William Sponne* the rector of this church in the reign of *Henry VI.* is parted off from the rest of the ile, and still retains the name of *Sponne's ile.* "This was originally called the chapel of St. Mary. There is a like division of the north ile from the body of the church." These divisions are now removed, and the space appropriated to pews. Each side chapel is divided from the chancel by two open wide arches; the south or *Sponne* chapel having a central square pillar with attached circular shafts at each angle and a plain capital following the faces. And the north chapel having a central octangular pillar with plain circular capital; the west arch springing from two small Norman columns, one of beaded chevrons or zigzags, the other of small, within large beaded lozenges, and both connected by a general interpolated capital of plain mouldings; and the east arch, springing from a grotesque human figure placed horizontally as a corbel, with capping of plain mouldings. In the east window of the south aisle are some small remnants of painted glass—the relics which escaped the puritanical zeal of Robert Stichberry, whose domestic afflictions are converted into retributive judgments for his sacrilegious conduct, in a contemporary tract entitled "Wonderfull News, or a true relation of a Churchwarden in the Town of Tuscester," &c. London, sm. 4to. 1642. "In the County of Northampton in a Towne called Tuscester some six miles distant from Stony Stratford, there very lately dwelt one Robert Stichberry, who being at that time Churchwarden of the said Parish, it hapned that he had an urgent desire to remove a glasse window fairly painted; for effecting whereof, hee with some other of his complices did batter and utterly breake and deface the same, leaving it as a sad spectacle (unmade up) to any good Christian to see God's house so miserably mangled and torne, which out [ought] to be used with an holy respect, as being the place where Almighty God ought to be implored. And now the people of the Towne, crave the Patron of the Church to make up the window again, who denieth to doe the same, (as in right he may doe) saying, let them that pull'd it downe make it up againe, and so it lies as they left it.

"But God who from the highest Heavens seeth all things below, suffereth not sin to go unpunished as may appear by this that followeth. For within two days after, his wife was exceedingly tormented on a sudden in her limbs, raging and crying most fearfully with the extreme anguish and pain she did endure, that she could not rest till such time as the violence thereof brought her to her last, and so she died in that extremity.

"The said Robert Stichberry himself in a short time after fell extreme mad, raving in a most fearful and strange case as amazed at his neighbours who were spectators, insomuch that five or six men could hardly rule him, and so continued in that most extraordinary manner howling and making a noise till he died.

"Next after this, the sister of the said Robert Stichberry whose name was Anne Stichberry dwelling in the same town, who affecting not the book of Common Prayer but making (for these two years past almost) a scorn thereof, she having the same bound up with her Bible, did much loath the sight of it, so as at the last she tore it out with her hands. But see how it pleased God to deal with this poor silly creature; as soon therefore as she had done this her good office as she thought, her hands that tore the same began presently in a most strange manner to rot, the flesh good off as the bones; and so continueth to this present, rotting in a most fearful and loathsome manner. And flying from the houses; and so continueth to this present, rotting in a most fearful and loathsome manner. And in regard great store of people come to see her, and being so extreme loathsome that by the neighbours she is removed a mile out of the town, where she remains lamenting much that she hath done so wretched and wicked a deed.

"Thus you may see that it is not good to attempt any thing against sacred places, or to vilify those things which have any part of Holy Writ in them, as the book of Common Prayer is fraught with sentences and prayers both out of the Old and New Testament; and therefore not to be so rashly abused, as you have in this forepassed History seen the event."

²⁶ *Ibid.* p. 275.
Vol. II.

²⁷ *Ibid.* Testament Will. Sponne, Office, Cur. Prærog. Reg. Luffh. Qu. 35.
8

The parish register records the burial of Elizabeth wife of Robert Stuchbury 4 Oct. 1641, and of Robert Stuchbury 28 Dec. 1641. Anne Stuchbury probably left the neighbourhood, as her interment does not occur in the register.

In the nave is a handsome multangular font, with arched compartments, probably coeval with the restoration of the church.

The chancel is open to the nave, without either arch or screen. There is an ascent of five steps to the altar, and the east end is wainscotted and railed.

MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS.

NAVE. Bridges thus describes two brasses which have subsequently disappeared.

'In the midst of the area of the church, on an antique marble, the figure of a man in brass sitting on a chair, and leaning his head upon his hand, and on a brass tablet the following inscription :

Of your charite pray for the soule of Will-
iam Norton, whiche deceaseth the xiiiiij day
of October, the xliiij year of the
reigne of his wife on whose soule Jesu have
mercy.'

'At the foot of this last on an antique marble the portraits of a man and a woman in the habit of the times, and at their feet the following inscription in brass :

Of your charite pray for the soules of
James Glasbery and Katherine his wife
whiche James departed the vij day of Fe-
bruary the xliiij year of the
reigne of his wife on whose
soule Jesu have mercy.'

NORTH AISLE. I. On a mural tablet of white marble:

ERECTED

to the Memory of the
Rev^d. ROBINSON LAWFORD,
(Rector of Braden,
Vicar of Easton,
and several Years Master
of the Grammar School
in this Town)
who departed this Life;
February 25th,
1795
Ætat. 61.

II. On a tablet of white marble between two Corinthian pillars supporting an open pediment :

Near this place Lieth the Body of
Mary Hastings wife of John Hastings
Citizen and Tallow Chandlour of Loⁿdon
Who departed this Life the 28 day
of May 1686 and in the 32 year of her age.

Near to this place also lyeth the
said JOHN HASTINGS, who died
May the 16 : Anno : Dom : 1698.

Aged 45 years.

And REBECCA Mother of y^e said
JOHN who departed this life Oct^r y^e 1693
Aged 63 years.

Near to this Monument WILLIAM
Father of the said JOHN HASTINGS
was also buried Oct^r y^e 10 : A : D : 1713
Aged 84 years.

Near this Monument lyeth the Body of
Eliz: daughter of Will: Hastings and
wife of John GOODCHILD, who died
Feb: y^e 6th A.D. 1722 Aged 70 Years.

Near to this Monument also Lyeth the
body of Rebecca Cuthbert daughter of
the above nam'd Will: and Rebec: Hastings
which said R: Cuthbert dyed Ap^rl y^e 16
A : D : 1727 aged near 70 years.

III. On a neat tablet of white marble edged with black :

Near
this Tablet
lie the remains of
NICHOLAS WHITE
(formerly of this parish)
who died
15th Jan^y 1798 Aged 57 years,

Also of MARGARET,
Relict of Nicholas White,
who died 19th May, 1804,
Aged 56 years.

Also of
MARY the wife of
Edward Phillips
and daughter of Nicholas White
and Margaret his wife
who
Died 25th April 1803
Aged 26 years.

IV. At the north end of the east wall, on a shield of white marble within a veined border :

IN A VAULT UNDERNEATH
ARE DEPOSITED THE REMAINS OF
THOMAS KINGSTON,
DIED 22. JULY. A.D. 1806.
AGED 45 YEARS.

OF ANN KINGSTON,
HIS SECOND DAUGHTER,
DIED 24 JANUARY. A.D. 1816
AGED 16 YEARS.

AND OF
ROBERT THOMAS KINGSTON
HIS ONLY SON,
DIED 19 OCTOBER. A.D. 1822
AGED 23 YEARS.

V. In the south-east angle is a large oblong tablet of white marble with a deep border of foliage and flowers; under the entablature are cherubs' heads and flaming torches, and over it, an urn; at the base, within mantling (Ar.) on a chevron between three goats' heads erased (S.) as many scallop shells (Ar.) Benson, impaling Ern. a bend (G.) Wallis.

Juxta Reposita Jacent Animarum Reliquie
GULIELMI BENSON Armigeri,
ELIZABETHE BENSON UXORIS sue,
Filiq: Utriusque Unici GEORGI BENSON,
Qui natus Die 4^{to}. Martii An. 1682, Primus
(Natura sic volente) desinit Vivere Die 12. Jan. An. 1684.

Pater natus 18^{mo}. die Aprilis, An. 1649,
Obiit Die 5^{ta}. Novembris, An. 1691.
UXOR ELIZABETHA BENSON Clarissimo Patre
Et viro Venerabili JOHANNI WALLIS S. T. P.
Et Mathematico Professore Oxoniæ, Nata
Die 23^{ro}. Septembris Anno 1638,
Cum Dia fuisset conjugis et Pueri Superstes
Vitam summâ Integritate Actam
Morte Clausit Pientissima Julii 16^{to}. An. 1703

Quorum Memoriam Sacrum Monumentum Hoc
Posuit ANNA BENSON, viri Honorabilis Johannis
BENSON Militis Unius Justiciarii de Banco
Conjux, et Elizabetha Benson Sola Soror
et Testamenti Executrix.

SLABS for

1. William Willes, 19 June 1676.
2. HERE LIE THE BODIES OF RICHARD AND SARAH WESTON WHO WHEN THEY HAD LIVED IN MARRIAGE THIRTY TWO YEARS WERE SEPARATED BY DEATH. HER DURING ON THE 18 OF DECEMBER 1662 AND SHEE ON THE 10 OF JANUARY 1675.
3. Mr. Joseph Clarke 30 Mar. 1681.
Elizabeth his wife 10 Oct. 1699.
Mrs. Sarah Townsend, 11 Nov. 1771 et. 92.
4. Mr. William Goodchild 3 Aug. 1749 et. 56.
5. HERE LYETH THE BODY OF JOHN HASTINGS CITIZEN AND TALLOW CHANDLER TO HIS MAJESTY. HE WAS ONE OF THE MASTERS OF THE HOSPITAL OF BRIDWELL AND CAPTAIN OF THE MALISTIA WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE THE 16 DAY OF MAY, 1698
AGED 45 YEARS.
6. John Goodchild, Currier, 10 Aug. 1731 et. 70.
7. John Stuard Perkins, 10 Mar. 1825 et. 23.
Thomas P. father of the above 25 Dec. 1829 et. 65.
8. Elizabeth Jones, w. of Thomas J. Apr. 1690, et. 68.
9. Robert Kingston, 12 Feb. 1788, et. 68.
10. Sarah Benson, d. of George B. Esq. & Mary his w. 21 Sept. 1718, et. 70.
Robert Kingston s. of Robert & Charlotte K. (bur. 10 Oct. 1792 et. 26.)
11. Thomas Kingston, 22 July, 1806, et. 15.
12. On black marble slab, arms and crest of Benson.
Here lyeth the Body of GEORGE BENSON, Esq. of this towne
Who departed this Life APRIL the 30th Anno Dom. 1687
Aged 88 YEARS.
AS ALSO THE BODY OF MARY RELICT OF THE SAID GEORGE WHO DYED NOVEMBER THE 21st, 1693.

Bridges records the following epitaph, now removed :
" At the upper end of the north ile, on an antique marble the portraiture of a man and his wife in brass, and at their feet this inscription :

Hic jacet Johannes Benson & Agnet ux
jus que obit vii die Martii & Eui fili-
ulime CCCCXXIIII quorum animabus
propitiis Eres. Amen.

Under the man are two sons, and under the woman two daughters.⁷³

SOUTH AISLE. VI. At the east end of the aisle under a window, is one of those singular altar tombs peculiarly

indicative of mortality. On the upper slab, archdeacon Sponne is represented in his ecclesiastical costume; his hands elevated in prayer, and his head reposing on a double cushion. On the slab beneath, he has paid the debt of nature, and his skeleton is introduced placed on a shroud. The sides of the tomb are open arches, and on the ledge the arms of Sponne are repeated, G. a fess Ermines, surmounted by a pale Ermine. When the tomb was removed to its present situation, the figures were injudiciously painted, and the arms erroneously emblazoned. On the wall at the foot of the tomb, in a wooden frame :

In Memory of Mr. W^m. Sponne Archdeacon of Norfolk & Rector of Towcester who in the 29th year of King Henry the sixth Gave the Talbot in Towcester with y^e lands belonging to it for y^e payment of y^e fifteens for y^e parish of Towcester if any such tax be given by parliament; if no such be given then to pave & repair y^e pavements in y^e streets in Towcester, & the pavements being made good, y^e remainder to be given to y^e poor at y^e discretion of y^e feoffees appointed to manage y^e same.

On a slab under the arch dividing the south aisle from the chancel :

IN A VAULT BENEATH THIS STONE
lie the Remains of
the Rev^d. WILLIAM SPONNE
Archdeacon of Norfolk
whose Monument was removed from this Spot
IN NOVEMBER 1835,
to make room for the new pewing of the Church.
He died A.D. 1448.

VII. Over Sponne's tomb, on a rectangular tablet of white marble, within a veined border :

Sacrum
Memorie
EDVARDI SABIN,
Cujus cineres juxta sunt depositi :
Obiit Septh Die 28^a.
Anno Dom: 1818.
Ætat. 67.

VIII. Above the last, on an oblong tablet of white marble, within a veined border :

MEMORIE SACRUM
CAROLI HEATH SABIN CHIRURGI
(FILII EDVARDI SABIN)
CUJUS CINERES,
ÆQUE AC CINERES PATRIS SUI
JUXTA DEPOSITI SUNT.
MORTUUS OBIT
DIE VICESIMO QUINTO SEPTEMBRIS
1831,
ÆTATE 49.
BENE AMATUS, VALDE DEPLETUS.

IX. On another oblong tablet of white marble :

Near this place
lie the remains of
JOHN MALSBRURY KIRBY,
who died 21. June, 1624.
aged 62 years.
SARAH, their daughter,
died 31. August, 1803.
aged 16 years.
JANE,
their daughter

TOWCESTER HUNDRED.

died 25 April, 1807,
aged 18 years.
MARY their daughter,
died 23. March, 1813
aged 16 years,
and ELIZABETH,
their daughter
who died 21 November. 1815.
aged 22 years.

Semper charæ, semper honorandæ
Pie posuit
WICKES HODGERS.

X. On a black marble tablet in a freestone frame :

MARLE HODGERS
Conjugis benè merite,
Quod
Claudi potuit
Juxta Cineres
ANNE SINDRY Sororis predilectæ,
Deposuit
Anima,
Propter Vite Virtutem
Singulari Prudentiâ munite,
Verâ Pietate ornatæ.
In Patris Sinu
Obiit æternam in Christo Vitam
Anhelans.
Janⁿⁱ 16^{to} Anno 1759,
Ætat. suæ 30.
MEMORIE
Hoc Marmor

13. Ann Gibbs spinster, d. of Charles & Ann G. 10 April, 1807, at. 82.
14. Hannah Goodchild 3 Aug. 1779 at. 71.
15. Mrs. Anna Ratnett, late w. of Richard R. gent. of this town, 11 Oct. 1781 at. 75.
16. [Mr. Richard] Ratnett [bur. 5 Aug.] 1738 at. 66.
17. Alexander Brown 10 Dec. 1712.
18. [Mr. Will.] Oldham 30 Nov. [1774] at. 40.
19. On a lozenge . . . a fess . . . between 3 escallops . . . Sindry. Anne Sindry d. of Paul & Anne S. 11 May, 1755, at. 28. Mr. Paul Sindry 30 Oct. 1761 at. 64.
20. Mrs. Ann Sindry relict of Mr. Paul S. 11 Mar. 1764, at. 67.
21. On black marble slab (Ar.) a chevron between 2 bugle horns, (S.) stringed (G.) on a chief (S.) as many lions rampant (Ar.) Crest, an arm erect, holding a ragged club, *Henchman*. Mr. William Henchman 6 June, 1728 at. 79.
22. Jane, w. of Mr. Kirby attorney at law 21 Mar. 1805, at. 48. Sarah, their daughter, 31 Aug. 1803, at. 17. Jane, another daughter, 25 Apr. 1807, at. 19. Mary, another daughter, 23 Mar. 1813, at. 17. Elizabeth, another daughter 12 Nov. 1815, at. 23.
23. Elizabeth Ann & Frances Rodd, daughters of Rev^d. John R. Vicar of this parish & Christian his wife, died "little children."

CHANCEL. XI. On the south wall is a monument of alabaster, painted and gilt in the gaudy style so prevalent in the early part of the seventeenth century. In the centre under a double arch are small-sized figures of Jerome Fermor and his wife kneeling with elevated hands before a faldstool or desk: on each side is a Corinthian column with gilt capital, supporting an entablature over which, within a circle is, Ar. a fess S. between three lions' heads erased G. *Fermor*, impaling S. a bend between two leopards' faces O. Beneath the figures :

THE MEMORIAL OF HIERO FARMORE Esq. & JANE HIS WIFE THEY LIVED TO-
-GEATHⁿ IN WEDLOCK 42 YEARS, & HE ATTAINED TO Y^e HONOR OF A GREAT GRAND
UNCLE & AFTER 74 YEARS LEFT THIS HOME FOR A BETTER SEPTHⁿ 7 A^o. 1602

On collateral compartments below :

Hierome thy joyes all shine on hie
Thy faith & truth did shine before
Jane lived thine and will so die
All praise thy life thy Fame.

Terra subest pars parta mei, pars indita supra
Terrea pars moritur, cœlica pars superest
Sed perit pars parva mei, pars maxima vivit
Villior ista jacet, sanctior illa viget.

XII. On a plain rectangular tablet of dark veined marble against the north wall :

This Tablet
is inscribed to the Memory of
SARAH FLESHER,
relict of Mr. GILBERT FLESHER,
who departed this life Sep^r 14, 1806 Aged 74.
She lived respected and died lamented,
By her family whom her care protected,
And by the poor whom her bounty cheer'd.
She stretched out her hand to the poor; yea
She reached forth her hands to the needy.
Prov. 31. 20.

24. October 1779 Æt. 49.
To the Memory of
Mr. GILBERT FLESHER
late Draper and Woolstapler of this Town,
whose Affection gained him the
Love of his Family:
whose Industry acquired him
a handsome Fortune;
and whose Affability won him

the Esteem of a numerous and
respectable acquaintance.
Reader go thou and do likewise.
Interred in the Church Yard
SOPHIA Ob^d 10th Sep^r, 1768;
GILBERT 23rd July, 1770;
CHARLOTTE 23rd Aug. 1778;
Infant Children of G. & S. FLESHER.
ANN FLESHER Spinster
Died 21st Feb^r, 1828 Aged 51.
respected, benevolent
and attentive to her
religious duties.
And Sarah their Daughter, Wife
of Thomas Perkins
Who died 1st Nov^r. 1790: Aged 30.
Sincere in Affection Charity and Religion.
CATHERINE KIRBY formerly
CATHERINE ELLIOTT, Widow,
Daughter of G. & S. FLESHER
Died 5th June 1825: Aged 63.
Unwearied in services of Charity.

25. Mr. Thomas Davis, s. of Mr. William & Mrs. Mary D.
31 May, 1770, set. 19.

26. Mr. William Davis, 8 May 1765 set. 77.
Mrs. Mary D. his relict, 8 July, 1771 set. 39.
Mrs. Ann Freeman 6 Oct. 1767 set. 20.
Mr. William Davis Junr. 1769 set. 20.

27. Mr. John Clarke, Draper, 5 Feb. 1780, set. 40.
Mrs. Eliena C. his relict, 13 Feb. 1830 set. 84.

28. Henry Bartlett [22 May] 1712 set. 70.

XIII. On the east wall of the south porch is a square marble tablet:

Near this Wall on y^e Other Side
is Inter'd the body of Sarah
Relict of Francis Wickes
late of Weston Pavell
in this County Gent
which said Sarah was born
at Towcester A.D. 1621
and buried A.D. 1707

And Sarah dyed in a good old Age.

CHANTRY or COLLEGE. William Sponne archdeacon of Norfolk and rector of this parish founded a chantry for two priests or chaplains in this church, to perform divine offices for his soul at the altar of the virgin Mary in the chapel at the east end of the south aisle. In 27 Hen.6 (1448) the year after his decease, licence was granted for the endowment;^a and in 1457 it was confirmed by John Chedworth, bishop of Lincoln.^b It will be seen in the account of Sponne's Chantry that in 29 Hen.6 (1451) mast. William Hall and mast. Nicholas Gernayne, chaplains of this chantry, were associated with the lay feoffees, and the Tabard—now the Talbot Inn—was charged with 40d. yearly for the repair of, and renewal of the books and ornaments of the chantry.* 'In 1510 John Guderich rector of Middleton Chenduit, obtained a special dispensation from the pope, to hold his rectory with a chaplainship in the said chantry; the founder having expressly declared that his chaplains should hold no other ecclesiastical benefice beyond the space of one month.'^c At the ecclesiastical survey of 26 Hen.8 (1535) the profits of this chantry or college were rated at £19. 6s. 8d. yearly; viz. £12 to William Reynolds the first chaplain and £7. 6s. 8d. to John Stevenson the second chaplain.^d The chaplains were episcopally instituted, and William Symondes, B.D. the last chaplain, was presented to this chantry by John bishop of Lincoln, on the resignation of sir Richard Symondes, and instituted by the bishop of Peterborough 10 May 1544.

In the chantry roll of 38 Hen.8 (1546) the college or Sponne's chantry in Towcester founded to maintain two priests being men of good knowledge, the one to preach the word of God, and the other to keep a grammar school, was returned to be no parish church, and the value of the lands and possessions appertaining to the same college, with £16 paid by the king's majesty out of the court of augmentations, was £18. 1s. 8d. yearly, whereof £8. 13s. 4d. was paid for the master or priest's salary, £7. 6s. 8d. for the schoolmaster or secondary's salary, and £1. 18s. 8d. for the king's tenths, total £17. 18s. 8d. and so remained 3s. Goods, jewels, or plate, appertaining to the said college, none.^d And on the dissolution of chantries, 2 Edw.6 (1548) the lands belonging to the said college or chantry were valued at £2. 11s. 8d. yearly, and it had also a yearly pension paid out of the king's coffers, viz. to the preacher or master 13 marks (£8. 13s. 4d.) and to the secondary or teacher 11 marks (£7. 6s. 8d.) amounting together to £18. 11s. 8d. The payments made rather vary from the return, being £8. 19s. 10d. to 'William Reingold m^r. of the sayd college & a preacher of th' age of liij yeres & hath no other lyving,' £7. 13s. 2d. to 'Willm Symonds schole M^r. well learynd of th' age of xlv yeres & teacheth dayly freely & hath no other lyving,' and £1. 18s. 8d. for the king's tenths. Goods or plate, none.^d

In 4 Edw.6 (1550) all the scite or capital messuage called the chantry house in Towcectour and cottage in Park lane late belonging to Sponne's Chantry, were granted (int. al.) to Richard Heybourn and William Dalby;^e who in Feb. 6 Edw.6 (1552) sold them to the feoffees of Sponne's Chantry, by whom the messuage was converted into a Grammar School and schoolmaster's house for the education of the youth of Towcester, and the cottage assigned to other charitable uses.^f

THE PARTICULAR OF CALVINISTIC BAPTISTS have a society here which originated in 1722. The dissenters in Towcester were not then sufficiently numerous to form a distinct congregation, and some being Baptists and others Independents, the former stately worshipped at Weston by Wedon and the latter at Potterspury; Mr. Stanger of Weston preaching in a licenced house at Towcester two Sunday mornings in succession and Mr. Heywood of Potterspury the third Sunday, till the year 1752, when both denominations united, and a small meeting-house 22 feet square was built for their mutual accommodation.

After remaining a mixed communion for thirty years, the Baptists determined to have a settled pastor, and Mr. Goode, the successor of Mr. Heywood, being unwilling to relinquish the third Sunday, a misunderstanding arose between the two parties, which issued in the secession of the Independents from the Baptists.

MINISTERS. Thomas Skinner was ordained the first pastor in 1784, and during his ministry the chapel was enlarged in 1788. On his removal to Newcastle on Tyne, he was succeeded by

William Amphlett in 1793. He removed to Wolverhampton in 1798, and

John Barker, the present minister (1839) was appointed in 1799.

The meeting-house is in a back street at the south-east end of the town. It is 40ft. long by 34ft. wide. It is peewed, and has a gallery on three sides. Adjoining to it is a small house for the officiating minister.

^a Rot. Pat. 27 Hen. 6. p. 1. m. 27.

^b Augm. Off.

^c Rot. Pat. 3 Apr. 4 Edw.6.

^d Reg. Joh. Chedworth Ep. Linc.
Sponne Evidences.

^e Br. 1. p. 277. 'Ex Autograph penes Pet. Le Noye, Arm.'

^f Vide p. 334.

TOWCESTER HUNDRED.

THE INDEPENDENTS sprung from the united congregation. For three years after the separation from the Baptists, they met in a private house; but the attendance increasing a meeting-house was erected in 1785, and Mr. Goode officiated so long as his connection with Potterspurty continued.

MINISTERS. *William Gunn*, from Hoxton Academy, was ordained in August 1814. He removed to Wold, was ordained the first pastor in October 1796. He was succeeded in 1822 by *Thomas Hitchen*, who settled the following year at Hockley, Bedfordshire. His successor, *William Hawkins*, was appointed in 1823, and is the present minister.

Joshua Denham was appointed his successor in 1799. On his resignation *Joseph Gravestock*, from Newport Pagnell Academy, was appointed in 1823, and is the present minister.

The meeting-house stands in a yard at the east end of the principal street. It is 33ft. 2in. long by 24ft. 4in. wide. It is pewed, and galleried on three sides.

THE WESLEYAN METHODISTS have a chapel in the street leading to Brackley. It was erected in 1809, and is 40ft. long by 29ft. 6in. wide. It is pewed, and has a gallery on the north side. A house for the minister is attached.

BENEFACTIONS (vide p. 263). SPONNE'S CHARITY. In Jan. 18 Hen.6 (1440) John lord Clinton and de Say and Joan his wife sold a message in Towcester called the Tabard with the lands and appurtenances thereto belonging in the fields of Towcester, Wood Burcot and Caldecote, to William Sponne clerk (archdeacon of Norfolk and rector of Towcester) and Thomas Lane clerk; and in Michaelmas following levied a fine of the same to Sponne in fee.^a Sponne died in 1448, and Thomas Lane by deed dated 5 Jan. 29 Hen.6 (1451) delivered and released the said message and lands as specially described therein, to William Hall and Nicholas Gernayn chaplains of the chantry called Sponne's chantry within the parish church of St. Lawrence in Towcester founded by mast. William Sponne late archdeacon of Norfolk, and to Thomas Bilyng senior of Astwell, William Chacombe, Richard Grendon, Peter Empson, John Holt, William Precious, Richard Salford, Robert Gregory, John Sutton, William Wikyn, Thomas Lufwick, William Shepard, and Thomas Phippes, "honest men parishioners of the said parish;" and by another deed dated the 15th of the same month, he declared that he had made the said conveyance to William Hall and others for the benefit of the soul, and according to the pious request and will of mast. William Sponne, for this end and purpose, that they, or the major part of the feoffees and their assigns should yearly meet in the said church of St. Laurence for ever within fifteen days after Easter Sunday, and out of their number should appoint one collector or official, or two according to their discretion, who should faithfully let the said message with its appurtenances, and diligently and without fraud collect the rents; and that they, in the presence of all the other co-feoffees, the rector or curate of the church, the seneschal or bailiff of Towcester, and Robert Whale during his life or abode within the said parish, or the major part of them, should faithfully in the said church, within fifteen days after Easter, give an account of the said rents and profits, and pay to them the whole rents thereof, receiving yearly for their pains according to the discretion of the other feoffees; and that the feoffees so receiving the rents and profits should lay up thereof in safe custody the sum of £40 in a chest strongly plated with iron and locked with three locks, placed in the church or any other secure place; and that the feoffees yearly within fifteen days after Easter should, out of the said rents and profits, in a decent manner keep and observe in the said church, the obit of the said mast. William Sponne, repeating on the night Placebo and Dirige, and the next day Mass Requiem by book; and that whenever it should happen that any fifteenth of the liege goods of the king, granted to him by the commonalty of England was to be paid, which fifteenth to be levied within the parish aforesaid, was according to the ancient laws of the realm taxed at 10 marks (£6, 13s. 4d.) then the lord of the said vill and all others taxed for payment thereof within the parish might be relieved by the said rents, and when any part of a fifteenth was granted to be levied within the parish, they might be relieved in like manner according to such part, and so on for ever; and that one of the keys of the three locks should be in the custody of the chaplains of the said chantry, another key in the custody of John Holt bailiff of the vill so long as he should reside in Towcester, and afterwards in the custody of the rector or curate, and the third key in the custody of the feoffees; provided that if for a whole year or half a year no fifteenth or part of a fifteenth should be paid, then the whole or at least the remainder of the rents over and above the £40 in the chest, should be disposed of at the sound discretion of the feoffees, as well in amending and repairing the said message when needful, and the pavement of the town, as by distribution among the poor residing in the parish of Towcester; and that they should also pay yearly to the chaplains of the chantry the sum of 40d. for the repair of, and renewal of the books and ornaments of the chantry; and when and as often as it should happen that four, five, or six of the feoffees should depart this life, the survivors should choose in their stead the same number of honest, just and discreet men, parishioners of the said church, and convey the message with its appurtenances to two meet chaplains in fee simple, who should immediately after make a new feoffment and conveyance to the two chaplains of the chantry, to the surviving parishioners, and to the parishioners newly chosen; provided that such parishioners newly elected do, on the day when they are enfeoffed, or at least within three days after, take a corporal oath before the ordinary of the place, or curate of the church, or at least before the seneschal or bailiff of the vill, that they will to the utmost of their power, faithfully observe all and singular the premises, without fraud, guile, or evil intention so far forth as in

^a Sponne Evidences.

them lies, according to the design and purpose aforementioned, and particularly that they would neither apply to their own use nor lend to others, any of the monies remaining in the aforesaid chest, but would faithfully dispose of the same in manner above mentioned; and if it should happen in future (which God forbid) that the feoffees should be remiss or negligent in the election of feoffees in form above assigned, or if they should be unable or should forget to observe and perform the above for the space of half a year, then he willed that said message with appurtenances should revert entire to his lineal heirs, or in defect of such heirs to the abbot and convent of St. James near Northampton and their successors, for the improvement of their house and revenue, for ever; and that this agreement and the injunction therein contained might not be annulled, or otherwise sink into oblivion, he willed and obliged the feoffees and each of them for ever, to ordain and appoint that this agreement and ordinance be publicly recited and read over seriously and distinctly in the parish church of Towcester before the parishioners then present at least twice in the year, viz. on the nativity of St. John the baptist, and on the circumcision of our Lord.^a

The charity estate in its present condition, consists of the following parcels, as taken from a survey made in 1820.

	A.	R.	P.		A.	R.	P.
The Talbot Inn in Towcester, in the deed } called the Tabard, with yard and gardens }	1	—	23	Brought forward.....	32	3	27
The Talbot close	9	1	37	The Brick-kiln Meadow	6	2	21
The Lampard Green	14	1	16	Anson's Hill	17	2	22
The Meadow	7	3	31	Half of the Brook	—	1	2
				Site of a Cottage in Park Lane.....	—	—	1
	32	3	27		57	1	33

There is also a narrow slip of land between the Talbot inn and the adjoining premises, which belongs wholly or in part to the charity estate.

The whole of the above premises except the site of the cottage in Park lane is now (1839) let to a yearly tenant for £180 *per ann.* and the cottage premises for £4 *per ann.*

Two of the feoffees conformably to the original deed, are appointed in succession every year to receive and apply the rents of the estates, and an annual meeting of the feoffees is held in Easter week for auditing the accounts, and for the general administration of the trust.

The annual income of the charity is applied to the repairs of the Talbot inn and premises, of the monument of the founder William Sponne, of the footways in the town of Towcester, and to the payment of an annual composition or sum of £10 to the trustees of the turnpike road passing through the town; and the surplus of the rents, after discharging the expenses of the trust, is distributed yearly by the two feoffees chosen to act for the year, among poor persons of the parish of Towcester, the most proper objects of charity being selected, and the sums given being regulated by their relative necessities. The surplus has been generally given in money, or in meat or bread supplied to the poor by tickets, but for the last two years (1837 and 1838) it has been distributed in coals.

THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL. The message called the chantry-house, and a cottage in Park-lane, late belonging to Sponne's chantry, granted in April, 4 Edw.6 (1550) to Richard Heybourn and William Dalby,* were purchased in Feb. 6 Edw.6 (1552) by the feoffees of Sponne's charity "out of their love for the town of Towcester and for the education of the children thereof in learning and for other good uses." The cottage was added to the general trust; but the chantry-house was converted into a school-room and residence for the schoolmaster. It adjoins the west end of the church-yard, and remains nearly in its original state. The old gateway in front is still standing.

In addition to the message with its yard and garden, the school is endowed with two cottages, with a small garden in Park lane let to yearly tenants for £13. 13s. 0d. *per ann.*; a small garden adjoining the last-mentioned premises let for £1. 10s. 0d. *per ann.*; a close in the master's own occupation containing 1a. 2r. 30p. of land allotted by the commissioners of inclosure in lieu of common rights pertaining to the school premises; and £7. 2s. 8d. *per ann.* payable out of the crown rents for the county of Northampton, varying 4s. from the original pension of £7. 6s. 8d. to the schoolmaster or second chaplain of the chantry.*

Besides the above, there is other property arising from benefactions either given to the school itself, or for the education of poor children generally, but which is now become annexed to the institution, and considered as forming part of the master's emoluments, viz.

An allotment of 13a. 2r. 11p. of land in Whittlebury, awarded on the inclosure in 1797 in lieu of lands formerly purchased with £105, whereof £100 was bequeathed by William Marriott, esq. in 1717 for the benefit of the school, and the residue was advanced by the feoffees; now let for £17 *per ann.*

A close of 3a. of land in Aththorp, settled by Anne Jones in 1697 in trust for teaching six poor boys of the parish of Towcester; now let for £3. 3s. 0d. *per ann.*

A yearly payment or rent-charge of £5. 1s. 0d. issuing out of lands in Aththorp now the property of — Parsons of Slapton. This rent-charge is understood to have been purchased with money arising under a bequest from Joseph Saunders, who, by will dated 18 Apr. 1704 directed the residue of his personal estate, after payment of his debts, to be laid out in the purchase of land for teaching poor boys to be chosen equally from Towcester and Greens Norton, and to provide them with books.

* Sponne Evidences.

* Vide p. 333.

And a yearly rent-charge of 40s. issuing out of lands in Greens Norton, now belonging to William Grant of Litchborough, esq. and devised by the will of Richard Ratnett dated 2 May 1738, for teaching two poor boys in the grammar school at Towcester.

The nature and extent of the education required, as well as the number of scholars appear to be undefined, and consequently discretionary; but the establishment is considered to be a Grammar and English school open to all the boys of the parish indefinitely, though the number is regulated by a specific agreement between the feoffees and the master, who is permitted to take private pupils, either as boarders or day scholars. There are now twenty-seven boys on the foundation (exclusive of two boys on PERRY'S CHARITY) of whom twenty-five are appointed by the feoffees from children belonging to Towcester, and two by the churchwardens and overseers of Greens Norton. The free scholars are instructed with the pay scholars in reading, writing, and arithmetic, without any charge being made, and such as desire it are also taught Latin; but they are generally of a class, who, from their situation in life, require only to be instructed in the more ordinary branches of education.

MASTERS. The master is appointed by the feoffees, who have frequently elected persons in holy orders, but the present master is a layman.

William Savage occurs master of the Grammar school in Towcester 2 Eliz. (1560).^a

"Mr. Thomas Rice, Schoolmaster," was buried 27 July, 1617.^a

Rev. William Cluer, appointed 23 Sept. 1617.

Emanuel Wright "Ludmagister," buried 13 Sept. 1628.^a

Rev. Nicholas Lovell, M.A. occurs 1631.

William Bland.

Rev. Jethro King, appointed 1681. He was of Corpus

Christi coll. Oxf. A.M. and vicar of Easton Neston, where he was buried 30 May 1707.

Francis Hoar "Schoolmaster," buried 22 Oct. 1711.^a

Rev. Gabriel Owen.

Rev. Ralph Robinson, buried 16 Mar. 1741.2.^a

Rev. Thomas Adams, buried 8 Dec. 1766.^a

Rev. Robinson Lawford. He was rector of Braden and vicar of Easton Neston, and died in 1795.

Thomas White succeeded 19 Mar. 1795; and dying 6 Dec. 1828, his son,

Thomas Clement White, was appointed on the 18th of the same month, and is the present master (1839).

PERRY'S CHARITY. William Perry, by will dated 15 Oct. 1691 gave a piece of ground in George or Plow yard in the parish of St. Margaret, Westminster, facing the Broadway, on part whereof stood two houses, for teaching two poor boys in the town of Towcester yearly, and for providing them with orange coloured coats and caps once in two years, at the discretion of the churchwardens.

This property produced only £2 *per ann.* till 1811 when it was leased for thirty-one years at the yearly rent of £5 with a covenant for repairs on the part of the lessees; and on the expiration of the lease the present rent is expected to be considerably advanced. The master of the school receives the rent, and in consideration thereof, instructs two poor boys nominated by the churchwardens, in addition to the number before mentioned, in reading, writing and arithmetic. Caps and coats have been sometimes found for the boys by the trustees out of the general funds of the school, but since the last letting of the premises in Westminster it has been left to the master to provide them.

BICKERSTAFF'S OR THE ALMSHOUSE CHARITY. Thomas Bickerstaff of London, a native of this town, erected three almshouses for three ancient people, and by will dated 20 Jan. 1695 devised to the trustees of the Talbot or Sponne's charity and their successors, a leasehold piece of ground in Towcester 17 yards by 15, held for a term of 500 years from 30 Sept. 1693 under lord Lempster with the three tenements or almshouses thereupon; and bequeathed to them £250 in trust to lay out in the purchase of an estate in fee simple, and out of the rents in the first place to repair, and when need be, rebuild the almshouses, build a good wall about the spring of water and well called Blackwell, and provide an iron dish for poor wayfaring people to drink out of; and afterwards out of the further proceeds, keep in the said almshouses three ancient men or women who had been born or had lived long in the said town, to be recommended by twelve of the ancients of the town, and approved by a majority of the trustees; and allow to every of them £3 yearly in money, payable quarterly, towards their maintenance; and on further trust, out of the surplus of the proceeds once in two years, to give to each of them a gown of 12s. price, marked with brass letters, T. B. on the left arm. The £250 was in 1698 vested in the purchase of open field land in Farthingston, in lieu of which the commissioners of inclosure allotted 28a. Or. 17p. of land, now let to a yearly tenant for £70 *per ann.*

The almspeople are appointed by a majority of the trustees, and are selected from poor and aged women, chiefly widows, belonging to the township of Towcester. It has never been customary to elect men, nor has it been usual for the twelve ancients referred to in the will, or for any of the inhabitants of Towcester, to recommend candidates to the trustees for admission into the almshouses. Each of the three almswomen receives at present a weekly stipend of 8s. out of the rents of the estate; but till last year (1838) no gowns had been bestowed on them for many years, the trustees considering it more for their benefit to apply the funds in increasing their stipends, which have been augmented from time to time, as the rents were advanced.

Two almswomen have been added and the stipends of the three on Bickerstaff's foundation increased, by the following benefactions.

£167. three per cent. cons. arising from a donation of £100 given in 1776 by Mrs. Mary Burnhill as executrix of Joseph Newman, the interest to be equally divided among the four poor widows then inhabiting the alms-houses.

^a Par. Reg.

£100, three per cent. cons. purchased with £80 given in 1789 by Mrs. Sarah Churchill, the interest to be equally divided among the four widows in coals yearly on the 1st of October.
 £15. 6s. 2d. three per cent. cons. purchased with £10 given in 1800 by Mrs. Mary Cooke, the interest to be laid out in candles, provisions, and fuel to the five widows on New Year's day yearly.
 £169. 3s. 4d. three per cent. cons. purchased with £120 bequeathed by Mr. Simon Adams in 1801, the interest to be laid out in finishing and keeping in repair the house erected by him near the almshouse, and for the benefit of an elderly person, male or female, freely to live therein.
 £90, being the amount (legacy duty deducted) of £100 bequeathed by Mr. James Hall in 1805, the interest to be applied for the better support of the poor persons regularly elected to occupy the almshouse.
 £100, three per cent. cons. bequeathed by Mrs. Sarah Churchill in 1814, the interest to be equally divided among all the five almspeople, between the 1st of December and 1st of April yearly.

An account of the receipt and application of the rents and dividends is kept by two trustees, elected yearly for the management of this charity, and the account is audited at an annual meeting of the whole body.

The almshouses stand in the principal street, and were rebuilt by the trustees in 1815. On a square stone tablet is inscribed "Hee that earneth Wages by labour and care, By the Blessing of God may have something to spare, T. B. 1689." There are two apartments in each house, and a garden common to all. In addition to the original almshouses, two others have been erected on part of the garden, one of which was erected several years ago by subscription of the inhabitants of Towcester, and the other was built prior to 1801 at the expense of the late Mr. Simon Adams.

CLEAVES' CHARITY. £50 given by Thomas Cleaves was laid out in the purchase of a half yard land at Woodend in Blakesley, and by indenture dated 21 Mar. 1639 conveyed to the vicar of Towcester and fifteen other trustees including the said Cleaves, in trust, that the vicar, churchwardens, and overseers of Towcester for the time being, should with the yearly rents provide thirteen penny loaves of wheaten bread to be distributed in the parish church of Towcester among thirteen of the poorest parishioners who should come to the church weekly and remain during divine service, on every Sunday after morning service a loaf to each person, the clerk of the parish being accounted one; and the overplus of the rent, if any, should go to the maintenance of the poor inhabitants, and to the repair of the parish church, at the discretion of the vicar, parish officers, and others the inhabitants; and that when the fees were reduced to four, they should convey to new fees, the inhabitants of the town, to the number of twelve, to be elected at a vestry meeting. The allotment by the commissioners for inclosing Woodend, in lieu of the half yard land, including 1r. 33p. of land awarded in exchange with Jesus college, Oxford, for a yearly quit-rent of 10s. payable to the charity in respect of some commonable rights, comprises 7a. 3r. 16p. and is let on lease for thirty years from 1819 at the yearly rent of £14. The rent is received by the churchwardens, and applied with the following charitable funds as hereafter stated.

JONES' CHARITIES. John Jones, by will dated 4 May 1694, devised four acres of land in Caldecote, in the parish of Towcester, to three trustees and their heirs, in trust, out of the rents to pay yearly to the minister and churchwardens of Towcester for the time being, the sum of £1. 6s. 0d. to be laid out in bread in equal shares four times in the year and distributed on the first Sunday in every quarter in the church of Towcester after morning service, to such poor inhabitants, as the minister and churchwardens, or any two of them, should think fit, and the surplus of the rent if any, to be paid to such uses as his wife Anne Jones should direct; and when two of the trustees should die, the survivor should, out of the profits of the land, put in two more, by the appointment and direction of the minister and churchwardens.

Anne Jones by will dated 25 Dec. 1699, reciting her husband's will, directed that the surplus of rent, be it 4s. yearly, more or less, should be given by the ministers and churchwardens to Thomas Macham, grave-maker, so long as he should continue in the office, and so to every such officer successively for ever. The commission of inclosure awarded 2a. 1r. 18p. of land in lieu of the four acres of open field, now let for £9 per ann. and the surplus of rent to which the grave-digger is entitled, now amounts to £1. 8s. 0d. yearly.

POOR'S LAND. The customary rent of two quarters of meslin or muncane of wheat and rye, and two quarters of malt, payable yearly to the vicar and churchwardens for the use of the poor by the bishop of Lichfield and Coventry or his lessee out of the lay impropriation, was commuted under the inclosure act for an allotment of 4a. of land, now let for £9 per ann.

RENT-CHARGES. The sum of 10s. yearly, stated in an ancient parish register to have been given by William Sheppard in 1617, charged on a piece of ground called Pulpit Leys, to be distributed by the churchwardens on Easter-day among ten of the poorest men and women of Towcester, and two several sums of 5s. each, payable out of the same land, and described in the register to have been given respectively by John Sheppard for the poor, and by his daughter Frances George, widow, for poor widows and other poor people of Towcester on Good Friday yearly, are regularly paid to the churchwardens out of the rents of a close containing 3a. 1r. 34p. near Blackwell, late the property of Mr. William Drayson, and now of the Earl of Pomfret.

There are also two yearly rent-charges of 40s. and 20s. recorded in the benefaction table as the gift of John Clarke and Richard Bland respectively; the former of which issues out of a farm in Tiffield the property of the rev. J. T. Fleisher; and the rent-charge of 20s. out of a house in Towcester and close adjoining called Bland's close, which belong to the earl of Pomfret.

TOWCESTER HUNDRED.

LEESON'S CHARITY. The sum of 40s. yearly is received under this charity for the parish of Towcester.*

The aggregate fund arising from Cleaves' and the succeeding charities, amounting to £37. 7s. 0d. yearly, is thus applied:—The sum of £3. 5s. 0d. is expended in penny loaves, of which fourteen are given away every Sunday in the church among poor widows who attend divine service, and one to the parish clerk; the sum of £3. 12s. 0d. is expended in bread under Jones's charity, which is distributed on the first Sunday in each quarter of the year among poor persons belonging to and living in Towcester, the grave-digger for the town receiving on each occasion two shillings' worth of the bread; the sum of 5s. is given in money on Good Friday, on account of Frances George's donation, to five poor widows of Towcester, selected by the churchwardens; a further sum varying from 50s. to 54s. is distributed on the 1st of March yearly, under the name of the Widows' Shillings, to all such poor widows of the parish as apply to receive the same, and are considered proper objects of charity; and the residue of the fund is expended in bread, which is distributed on St. Thomas's day and Good Friday, among all the poor of the parish, in quartern and half-quartern loaves, according to the size of families. The charity commissioners observe that "the fund is disposed of according to the intention of the several donors, except as to the surplus rent of the land devised by Jones, which ought to be applied for the benefit of the grave-maker, but has been otherwise disposed of through ignorance of the provisions of Anne Jones's will, of which a copy has but recently been discovered." The surplus is now (1839) correctly appropriated.

CHURCH ESTATE. Richard Hicks, by indenture dated 22 Mar. 11 Hen.8 (1520) conveyed two messuages and a close of land in Towcester, to certain trustees their heirs and assigns for ever, in trust, for the repairs of the parish church of Towcester, dedicated to St. Laurence. One of the messuages with a barn is now let for £8. 10s. *per ann.* and the other messuage with the close containing 7a. 2r. 31p. of land, for £45 *per ann.*

This property is under the management of eleven feoffees chosen from the inhabitants of Towcester, and the rents are received by two of the feoffees appointed by the others, and after payment of the interest on £90 borrowed from Hall's Charity, are applied to the repairs and ornaments of the church.

The sum of £545. 10s. 7d. was borrowed some years ago, and expended in new ceiling the church; and £200 was furnished by the feoffees towards the recent embellishments recorded in a previous page.†

KNIGHTLEY'S CHARITY. The fund appropriated under the late Sir John Knightley's bequest to the use of the Sunday school in Towcester amounts to £191. 17s. 0d. three per cent. cons. standing in the name of the accountant-general of the Court of Chancery to the credit of the churchwardens and overseers of the parish. The dividends, amounting to £5. 14s. 0d. *per ann.* are applied with other monies raised by subscription, in the payment of salaries to two masters and mistresses of a Sunday school for boys and girls, which is attended by about 140 boys and 140 girls.

BURCOTE,

or WOOD BURCOTE, as it is generally called, to distinguish it from Field Burcote in Greens Norton, lies on the east side of this parish.

MANORIAL HISTORY. In 3 Hen.3 (1219) Alured the son of Alured, levied a fine of a virgate of land in Burcot to *Aveline the widow of Geoffrey Fitz Peter*;‡ and another virgate to Joseph de Towcester.§ This *Aveline* here simply described widow of Geoffrey Fitz Peter, without any titular addition to either party, is, in right of her husband,¶ styled *A. countess of Essex* two years afterwards in another record, on a question of boundary between the king's park of Hanley, and her manor of Towcester,‡ or rather her manor *in* Towcester, including probably Burcote, and Abthorp, where Geoffrey and his wife had lands in the reign of king John.§ The paramount manor of Towcester was at this time vested in the Munchensis,|| to whom these subordinate manors not improbably reverted on the decease of Aveline without issue; both places, with Caldecote, occurring subsequently as manorial members of Towcester.¶ In 18 Edw.1 (1290) Alice widow of Robert de Lychbarve conveyed to Philip de Hardreshull and Amice his wife two crofts called Osmund's-croft and Bancroft in "Wodeburcot."^{7d} In 1 Edw.2 (1308) Joan widow of Richard de Totchall of Towcester, quit-claimed and released to John le Porter of Wodeburcote and Sibilla his wife, all right in that mill with the mill-pond called "Doeckell mulne" in the fields of Wodeburcot;‡ and in 19 Edw.2 (1325) William de Norton, clerk, granted to his uncle John

* Hatton MSS. P. 3 Hen.3.

† Rot. Claus. 3 Hen.3 m. 21. verso.

‡ Esc. 17 Edw.2 n. 75, 8c. &c.

§ Former Evidences.

* Vide ANTHONY, p. 269.

† Vide p. 329.

‡ Vide AYNHO, Vol. I. p. 544.

§ Vide ANTHONY, p. 265.

|| Vide TOWCESTER, p. 313.

Barcot, in the time of Bridges, was a hamlet of 'five and twenty houses,'^b but is now reduced to twenty-one houses.

CALDECOTE.

[illegible]

From Heraldic visitations, Parish Register of Towcester,* and other authorities.

Arms Argent two chevrons Gules.

RICHARD GRENDON, of Caldecote, living 29 Hen.6 (1451). J.....

JOHN GRENDON, of Caldecote, gent. ob. 8 Aug. 16 Hen.8 (1524) *Esc.* 16 Hen.8. a. 77. —ELEANOR, d. of . . .

JOHN GRENDON, of Caldecote, gent. ob. 8 Aug. 16 Hen.8 (1524) Esc. 16 Hen.8. n. 77.

Rev. JOHN GRENDON, of Caldecote, wt. 35, Esc. 16 Hen.8.
ob. 1 Mar. 26 Hen.8. (1535) Esc. 27 Hen.8. n. 67.

2. ROBERT GRENDON, of Caldecote, gent. wt. 39, Esc. 27 Hen.8 ob. 4 Oct. 4 & 5 Phil. & Mar. (1557) Esc. 4 & 5 Phil. & Mar. p. 3. n. 4.

ELIZABETH, d. & coh. of John Mansies, of Shelford, co. Essex, esq.

GEORGE GRENDON, of Caldecote, gent. wt. 4, *Esc. 4 & 5 Phil. & Mar. bur.* = ALICE, d. of James Chamberlain, sist. of Sir Thomas C. ch. just. of Chester.

GEORGE GRENDA, of Caldecote, gent. et. 4, <i>Esq.</i> 4 & 5 <i>Pain.</i> 4 & 5 7 Dec. 1696.				ch. just. of Chester.					
1. SAMUEL	2. WILLIAM	3. THOMAS	4. PAUL	5. RICHARD	6. GEORGE GRENDA, of Cal-	JOAN, d. of	DOROTHY	JANE; w. of	JUDITH,
		THOMAS	GRENDA.	GRENDA,	decote, gent. bar.* 4 Sept.	John Capel,	AGNES	Thos. Capel,	bar.* 15
						of Stowe.	ELEANOR	of London.	July, 1598

2. SAMUEL GRENDON.	3. WILLIAM GRENDON.	4. THOMAS GRENDON.	5. FRANCIS GRENDON, ob. s. p.	6. JOHN GRENDON, decoate, gent. bur. 4 Sep. 1657.	7. JOHN GRENDON, gent. of Stowe.	8. JOHN GRENDON, ELANOR of London.
9. SAMUEL GRENDON.	10. PAUL GRENDON.	11. WILLIAM GRENDON.	12. JUDITH, d. of John GRENDON.	13. RICHARD GRENDON.	14. GEORGE GRENDON, of Blakesley, hills, Emley.	15. ELIZABETH w. of William Pinckard.

1. NATHANIEL GREN- DON, bap.* 10 Aug. 1590, bur.* 14 Nov.	2. SAMUEL GREN- DON, bap.* 24 Nov. 1607, bur. NOV.	3. PAUL GREN- DON, bap.* 4 July 1594	4. WILLIAM GREN- DON, of Blakesley, bap.* 31 Jan. 1600, ob. 1643.	JUDITH, d. of John Butler, of Blakesley.	S. GREN- DON, ob. bap., of Blakesley, bur.* 20Aug. 1609, at 73, 1682; ob... 1604.	milian Emrys, of Helmston, Genesee mar.* 1 Dec. 1632. Ascote.	Pincard, of Ascote.
-----------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------

[illegible]

1. JOHN GRENDALE, of Calde- cot, at. Twyrcross, co.	2. GEORGE GRENDALE, bap. 26 Feb 1636.	MILLAN GRENDALE, of Stoke Bruern, at.	of GRENDALE, Ballard, of London.	GRENDALE, of Caldecote, at. 34, 1682.	Wills, of Weston.	ob. inf.	ner, of Stoke Bruern.	stone.
-----------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------	----------------------	----------	--------------------------	--------

of Caldecote, Herts. 40, 1682.	Twycross, co. Leic. 1636.	Brues, st. 36, 1682.	GRENDON, ob. inf.	JUDITH; w. a. John Pickering, Joseph Baring, of Blakey. ton, of co. Bedf.
MARTHA; w. of Richard	3. GEORGE GRENDON, 1682.	ELIZABETH, et 10, 1682.		

MARTHA; w. of Richard GRENDON, ELIZABETH, et 10, 1682.
Adams, of London. et. 38, 1682

* *Fermor Evidences*.
Harwood.

TOWCESTER HUNDRED.

From Sir George Fermor, in whom this subordinate manor merged in the superior manor of Towcester by purchase, it has lineally descended to George William Richard, the present and 5th earl of Pomfret, a minor (1839). Caldecote is about a mile north of Towcester, and in the time of Bridges contained 'about twenty houses,'^a now sixteen.

HANLEY PARK,

or HANLEY FREE-HAY, as it was usually called whilst within the precincts of Whittlebury forest, is the south-east division of the present parish of Towcester, and contains 863 acres of old inclosure, the property of the master and fellows of University college, Oxford. It was deafforested, the timber felled, and the whole converted into tillage and pasture within a few years of its alienation by the Crown in the seventeenth century. There are about 350 acres of arable; the remainder is in permanent pasture. The quarry from which the tower and aisles of Towcester church were rebuilt by the bounty of king Edward IV.^{*} is not now worked, but is known as the "Delfe."

MANORIAL HISTORY. In the introduction to the history of WHITTLEBURY FOREST,[†] a conjecture has been hazarded whether Hanley might not have been included in the extensive wood surveyed in Domesday under Norton, which formed the nucleus of the forest. The exact period, however, of its first forestial connection with Whittlebury will probably continue to baffle modern research. In 5 Hen.3 (1220) John Mar and Hugh de Neville were commanded by the king to make inquisition by good and legal men of the view of "Tovecestre," whether the meadow and pasture between the king's park of "Hanle" and the rivulet of "Tove ext. Tovecestre," belonged to A. [Aveline] countess of Essex's manor of Tovecestre or to the said park of Hanle; and to return the inquisition so made to H. de Burgo the king's justiciary at Westminster in the octaves of St. Hilary under their seals, and the seals of the jurors.^b The land in dispute, from the relative situation, must have been the present vicarial allotment under the Towcester inclosure, lying between Hanley and Woodburcote. This is the earliest retrieved notice of Hanley, and would imply its independence of the forest, and yet before the close of the reign, its connexion was indisputable. In 34 Hen.3 (1251) the sheriff of the county certifying that timber for the king's works at Silveston could not be found in the forest of Whittlewood, without the woods of Pokesley and Hanley, a mandate issued for him to take the timber where it would be to the least damage;^c and in 45 Hen.3 (1261) it was found by inquisition that Wibert le Porter and Hugh de Stratford had held the bailiwick of Witlode or Whittlebury forest in fee farm, and that they had rendered for the forestership 43s. 4d. yearly, two quarters of nuts or 4s. thirty geese, and thirty hens, and the bailiwick of Hanley in the said forest, was worth £4 yearly.^d On a subsequent inquisition in 6 Edw.1 (1278) to ascertain the nature and extent of the bailiwick of Elias de Tingewick in the forest of Wyttelewood, and on what conditions the foresters held it before the king granted him the bailiwick of the forest and the park of Hanley, and in what manner he held it since the grant: after enumerating the services and perquisites of the bailiwicks of Wakefield and Haselborough, the jurors presented that Elias had taken toll for passage throughout his whole bailiwick, and dead wood for his own use in the king's woods, and nuts in the same woods, except in the park of Hanle, and retropannage after the feast of St. Martin, except in the said park.^e In 13 Edw.1 (1285) John de Tingewicke was commanded to fell twelve oaks in Hanley Park, within Whittlewood forest, to the use of Richard de Holebrook, constable of the king's castle at Rockingham.^f The perambulation of the forest in 27 Edw.1 (1299) included the park of Hanley, within the old foss, and then proceeded by a certain way to Newebrigge (near Hanley park side) excluding Docwell-hay (now called the Hayes farm) and the vill of Toucestre and the parish thereof.^g

In the reign of Elizabeth, a petition was presented to her majesty by John Sill, "keeper of Hanley Walkes within the forest of Whittlewood," stating that the walk consisted of 400 acres of wood ground and 200 acres of waste ground in ridings and plains, whereon her majesty's deer kept by him for her use did depasture, but that she had no profit except the very game itself, the ground being wholly employed thereunto, but contrariwise, was at costs and charges therewith yearly both in respect of the fee which by her especial grace and favor she gave him yearly during life by letters patent, and also by the continual charge of repairing and maintaining the fences and mounds of the grounds; and undertaking, if it would please her majesty to make a lease to him of the woods which in the said forest were fit to be fallen (all timber trees excepted) and of the residue of the open and waste grounds within the same for the term of fourscore years, that he would not only discharge her majesty of the said fee granted to him, and of the charge of repairing the fences and mounds, but would give a rent of

^{*} Br. 1. p. 278.

^b Rot. Claus. 5 Hen.3. m. 21, verso.

^c Cardigan MSS. G. 3. p. 582. "Claus. 34 Hen. 3."

^d Ec. 45

Hen.3. m. 46.

^e Ec. 6 Edw.1. n. 51.

^f Hatton MSS. A. A.

^g Rot. Peramb. North. 27 Edw.1. m. 11.

^{*} Vide p. 328.

[†] Vide p. 74.

[‡] Vide WHITTLEBURY FOREST, p. 75.

£30 yearly, and such reasonable fine as to the lord treasurer and chancellor of the exchequer should be thought meet, and would also be bound with good sureties to maintain the game in as good sort as then it was, and so at the end of the term to leave the same. The queen in council 23 May 1601, appointed the lord treasurer and chancellor of the exchequer advishly to consider of the offers therein made and pretended to be for her benefit, and certify their opinions thereupon; and on the 23d of August the lord treasurer made the following return.

"Whereas the Queen's Majesty's surveyor of the County of Northampton upon warrant to him from the Lord Treasurer of England in that behalf directed, hath certified that Hanly Walkes within the Forest of Whitewood within the said County, containeth by estimation 628 acres, viz.

In Wood grounds 422 acres, the same standing Oakes Maple Hassell and Whitethorn which is very old and part thereof being cutt never groweth again by reason of age, and the rest being felled cometh again very slowly.

The Waste with the Ridings 166 acres and are wet ground in Winter except some dry hills which in Summer are dried away.

The Launde 40 acres which is but indifferent ground being marsh and full of rushes.

And further of the Wood groundes within the said Walke unsold containing by estimation 302 acres is worth to be sett at xij^l. the acre by the year

The Wood grounds already sold to Her Majesty's use and not again saleable this 20 or 30 years, containing by estimation 220 acres is worth to be sett by the year vij^l. the acre, but together with the Wood grounds unsold may be letten for xij^l. the acre per an^m. cometh unto

Some of the yearly worth xxi^l. ij^l. 0^d.

The fees, allowances, and payments wherewith Her Majesty is yearly charged for the keeping and maintaining of the Walke aforesaid do amount to the yearly some of

	li.	s.	d.
The yearly fees and wages of the Keeper	-	-	1
For Firewood yearly to the said Keeper 32 Loads	-	-	ij
Browsewood yearly for the Deer	-	-	1
For the Reparations of 2 Lodges within 12 years last past 0 ^l . & so yearly by estimation	vij	x	
For the yearly fencing of the King's Hedge of the said Walke, which is large & lyeth in many Angles the pasture & common field lying round about it	x		
For 24 Kyne besides riding & stalking horses allowed to the Keeper, every Kowe worth xij ^l . iv ^l .	xvj		

Every four Years is a Wood sale & at the sales are cutt sometimes one Cops sometimes two so that *communibus annis* there are three copses felled in 8 years, the fencing of every Cops after the felling doth stand Her Majesty in xx^l. which being proportionally divided into 8 parts doth come unto viij^l. x^s. & the keeping of every Cops doth cost the Queen . . . per ann. And because always 2 Copses are fenced therefore the keeping of those fences is . . . which with the aforesaid some of vij^l. x^s is

The Master of the Game, the Lieutenant, two Venderors have each of them a fee accrue upon every felling of Wood every acre worth xl^l. which cometh one year with another yearly to

Summa totalis of the yearly charge is

"So it appeareth by the surveyor's certificate that the said Walke is worth yearly xxvij^l. v^s. and standeth Her Majesty in liij^l. vi^s. vii^d. whereby the charge exceeds the value *communibus annis*, xxiv^l. xvij^l. viij^l. for which Her Majesty hath only the game kept, and the timber preserved without any to be fallen only for ralles, posts, stakes, and gates; whereupon the surveyor informeth that he which will give the rate afore by him set down, amounting unto xxvij^l. v^s. for the premises deserveth to be Tenant thereunto; and he further certifieth that John Sill the petitioner is Keeper by patent of the said Walke during his life.

"The petitioner offereth xxx^l. rent and such fine as shall be thought fit and reasonable, and the game to be preserved and tymber, excepted onely necessary tymber to be taken for ralles, posts, stakes, and allowances, as hath always been accustomed, and he to discharge Her Majesty of all yearly fees, charges, and allowances, which Her Majesty is now at by reason of the premises, so as he may have a lease of the premises for fourscore years.

"I thinke it an agreement profitable for your Majesty and beneficial to this petitioner your servant, if your Majesty shall please to graunt him a Lease for forty years, paying the said rent of xxx^l. and performing and discharging all things as is aforesaid, and for a fyne one hundred Marks.

"T. BUCKHURST.

"23 Aug. 1601."

The negotiation for the lease failed, Sill probably objecting to the limitation of the term or the amount of the fine; and in 5 Car. (1629) the king, in consideration of £6000, granted to

Sir Simon Bennet of Beauchampton in Buckinghamshire, bart. "all those coppices and wood grounds called or known by the name or names of Ambrose Coppice, Delfe Coppice, Shortwood Coppice, Radmoore Coppice and Hollowes Ramswell Coppice, Basnell's Coppice, Howe Coppice, Broadhedges Coppice and the Hollowes Bare Coppice, and Hanley-end Coppice, and all that house or messuage called or known by the name of the Lodge of Hanly, and all that parcel of pasture called or known by the name of the Launde, commonly called Hanly Parke, or Hanly Office, or that parcel of pasture called or known by the name of the Launde, and all that parcel of waste land adjoining the same situate, lying, and being within the old ditch, together with the said ditch, and within the

TOWCESTER HUNDRED.

forest of Whittlewood in the county of Northampton, containing by estimation eight hundred and sixty-three acres,* and all houses, edifices, and buildings thereon, and all deer and wild beasts as well male as female and other animals of, in, and within the said coppices and premises, and all woods, underwood and trees, oak, ash, elm, and beech, and all other trees whatsoever, and all the land and ground, and all mines, quarries, and other profits, and common pasture throughout the said forest of Whittlewood, and as much as in him lay, all manner of tithes, and all reversions and remainders whatsoever; and further granted to the said sir Simon and his heirs, that they should hold the said coppices and premises deforested and exonerated from all forestal services and jurisdiction, with licence to impark and inclose them, and have free chase and free warren therein.^a Sir Simon Bennet, in grateful commemoration of having been educated at University college in Oxford, and for the advancement of learning there, by his will dated 15 Aug. 1631, devised the reversion of the Hanley Park estate, after the death of dame Elizabeth his wife, to the master and fellows of that college, for enlarging and completing the buildings, and founding four new fellowships and four new scholarships.

BENNET OF BEACHAMPTON CO. BUCKS, AND OF HANLEY PARK, BARONET.

From Brown Willis's Buckingham, Parish Register of Beachampton,* and other authorities.

Arms. Gules a Bessant between three demi lions rampant Argent. *Crest.* Out of a mural coronet Or, a lion's head Gules charged with a Bessant. *Another Crest.* A double scaling ladder Or.

THOMAS BENNET, of Clapcote, co. Berks, esq. bur. at Wallingford, co. Berks=ANNE, d. of Molines, of Mackney, co. Oxon.

1. RICHARD BENNET, of Clapcote, co. Berks, esq. bur. at Wallingford, co. Berks, esq. BENNET EARL OF ARLINGTON, co. Middx. now merged in the DUKEDOM OF GRAFTON.	2. ELIZABETH, d. of THOMAS Tisdale, of cote, co. Berks, esq.	3. SIR THOMAS BENNET, of Beachampton, co. Bucks, and of London, sheriff of London 1594 (36 Eliz.) had mayor of London and knighted 1 Jac. (1603) ob. 16 Feb. 3 Car. (1627-8).
BENNET EARL OF TANKERVILLE.		
1. AMBROSE BENNET, of Beachampton, co. Bucks, BARONET, Pat. 17 Jul. ob. s. p. 23 2 Car. (1627), ob. s. p. Mar. 6 Car. 20 Aug. 7 Car. (1631).	2. SIR SIMON BENNET,=ELIZABETH, d. of Sir Arthur ARD BENNET, of Temple Newsam, co. York, co. don, esq. mar. 11 Jac. ob. 29 Apr. 7 Car. (1631).	3. RICH. =ELIZABETH, d. of William Cradock, of London, ob. 5 Dec. co. Staff, esq. 1631.
		2. h. SIR HENRIAGE=1 w. FRANCES, d. of Sir Edmund BEN. of Bedford, NET, ob. co. Norf, esq. s. p. ob. 11 Apr. 1627.
		Vide DAVENTRY, vol. 1. p. 307.
		FINCH HATTON EARL OF WINCHILSEA & NOTTINGHAM.
SIMON BENNET, of Beachampton & Calverton, co. Bucks, Esq. nephew & h. of Sir Simon B. et. 7. Esc. 7 Car. ob. 20 Aug. bur.* 21 Aug. 1631.		GRACE, d. & coh. of Gilbert Morewood, of London, esq. murdered at Calverton, co. Bucks, 19 Sept. bur.* 27 Sept. 1694, et. 63.
1. THOMAS BENNET, bur.* 2 May, bur.* 5 May, 1652.	2. SIMON 1. MARY, born* 10 July, bur.* 25 Aug. 1675.	3. MARY, d. of Sir Arthur ARD BENNET, of Temple Newsam, co. York, co. don, esq. mar. 11 Jac. ob. 29 Apr. 7 Car. (1631).
	4. MARY, d. of Sir Arthur ARD BENNET, of Temple Newsam, co. York, co. don, esq. mar. 11 Jac. ob. 29 Apr. 7 Car. (1631).	5. EDWARD (La. scott. born 27 Feb. bur.* 27 Mar. 1659, ob. s. p. 1 May, Duke of Leeds, ob. s. p. Jan 1688.
		6. JOHN BEN. NET, of Abington, co. Camb. esq. living 1732.
		7. FRANCES, d. & coh. of born 20 Oct. 1670, ob. 8 July, bur. in St. Giles Hatfield, co. Herts, in the fields, co. Middx. 8 Nov. 1694.
		JAMES, 4th earl of Salisbury, bur. at Hatfield, co. Herts, 8 Nov. 1694.
		Cecil, MARQUIS OF SALISBURY.

The master and fellows of University college were compelled to engage in a legal contest with the heir at law and representative of Sir Simon Bennet, in order to obtain possession of the estate, as well as to determine the number and endowment of the fellows and scholars to be maintained. The whole of the north side of the larger quadrangle of the college fronting the High street, and the south side containing the chapel and hall were erected by means of Sir Simon's benefaction at an expense of about £4000, for which purpose timber and underwood were cut down and sold to the amount of £2,554. 11s. 11d., and the difference was supplied from the rent and a fine on granting a lease. Of the timber sold, 280 trees felled in May 1634, produced £394. 8s. 4d.; 321 trees in May 1635, produced £502. 9s. 2d.; and 533 trees in May 1636, £780. 0s. 0d.

By a decree of the court of chancery in 14 Car.2 (1662) it was ordered that four new fellowships and four new scholarships should be constituted, to be incorporated with the old foundation of the college; and this number continues to the present day. By a subsequent regulation made by the visitor of the college, the fellows are to be elected from those who are, or have been scholars on this foundation; and the scholarships are open to all persons born within the province of Canterbury. Besides many eminent divines, the celebrated sir William Jones chief justice of Calcutta; sir Edward West chief justice of Bombay; sir Thomas Plumer master of the rolls and vice chancellor; and sir John Richardson justice of the Common Pleas, have been scholars or fellows on sir Simon Bennet's foundation. A portrait of sir Simon is preserved in the lodge of the master of the college.

The estate for the last hundred and fifty years has been in the tenancy of the family of the present lessee, John Thomas Pinckard, gent.; and the actual occupation by his father and grandfather extended over the lengthened period of ninety-nine years. The Lodge is a commodious residence, and remains nearly in its original state,

Bridges says, 'there are six or seven families belonging to the parish of Towcester.' There are at present (1839) four houses and a cottage on the estate. It contributes an eighth part of the disbursements for the poor and church of Towcester, but maintains its own roads.

* Rot. Pat. 11 Mail & Car.

* Br. 1. p. 279.

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PRITCHLEY HOUSE.

Remains of fine Hall and Apartments of the County



NORTHAMPTONSHIRE TRADESMAN'S TOKENS
In possession of Miss Baker.

Drawn & Engraved by A.B.

empore Regis Edwardi. fuit in Northampton
in dno regis de burgensibz hinc tota mansione.
Ex his sunt in. xxiij. uastis. Residue sunt xl. vi.
Preter hos sunt in nouo burgo. xl. burgensibz
in dno regis Willelmi.

In ipso burgo fuit Epus constantiensis. xxiiij. domos.
Idem. xxix. solidi. vii. denarij.
Abbas de s. Edmundo. i. domus de. xxi. denarij. uastis.
Abbas de Burgo. xxiij. domos de. xxiij. solidi vii. denarij. Dux fuit
Abbas de Ramessy. i. domus de. xxi. denarij.
Abbas de Couentrey. iij. domos de. xxi. denarij. Tres fuisse.
Abbas de Euesham. i. domus uasta.
Abbas de Salebi. ii. domos de. xxiiij. denarij.

Comes Moriton. xxx. vii. denarij. xxi. solidi vii. denarij. Dux fuit
uastis. De. xx. domibz hinc fuit per secham.
Comes hugo. i. domus de. iiii. denarij.
Comitissa ludea. xxi. domos de. xxi. solidi. Vna e uasta.
Robertus de Toden. iij. domos de. iiii. solidi. Vna e uasta.
Henricus de feret. iij. domos de. xx. solidi vii. denarij. fuit.
Antiqua capellani regis. i. domus de qua p. debet habere
Willelmus p. e. xxiiij. domos de. xxiiij. solidi vii. denarij.
Tres ex his sunt uastis. fuit. xxvi. denarij.

Willelmus filius boselini. ii. de feudo episcopi de comitatu ludee
Willelmus ingame. i. domus de Roberto de. xxi. solidi reddidit.
Wido de Ramburgen. iij. domos de. lx. iij. denarij.
Walterus Randrensis. x. domos de. vii. solidi. Vna e uasta.
Vinemar. xxi. domos de. iii. solidi. fuit. iij. sunt uastis.

Ricardus ingame. iij. domos de. iiii. solidi.
Robertus de Aluers. i. domus de. xxi. denarij.

Rogerus de besenorman. i. domus de. xxi. denarij.
Gosfridus de Wye. iij. domos de. iiii. solidi.

Gosfridus alclim. x. ad nepotes. i. domus de. ii. solidi.
Gilo filius Anselmi. iij. domos de. xxv. denarij.

Ganfridus de Cioches. vii. domos de. vii. solidi. Tres fuisse.
Sigardus de Cioches. i. domus de. xxi. denarij.

Suam filius Azur. xxi. domos de. x. solidi. p. ad Cioches.
Anstus de ualbadon. i. domus de. ii. solidi. de feudo episcopi.

Baldwinus dimid mansione uasta. fuit. i. domus de. lx. denarij.
Oskun. xxi. domos de. iiii. denarij. fuit. i. domus de. xxi. denarij.

Dunandus p. p. i. domus de. xxi. denarij. de feudo Roberto Toden.
Dodon. i. domus de. xxi. denarij. de feudo. alia de Winemay.

Hugo de W. i. domus de. xxiiij. denarij.

Northamptonshire p. p. firma quā vocat. xxi. lib.
ad pondus. Ad canel. i. lib. albi. de. xxi. in oia. De dono
regine. 7. de feo. x. lib. 7. o. p. de. de. xxi. p. p. x. lib. De
suarano. x. lib. de. de. de. xxi. p. p. x. lib. De. de. de. xxi. p. p. x. lib.
De. de. de. xxi. p. p. x. lib. De. de. de. xxi. p. p. x. lib.

Burgensibz de hantone reddidit uiccom p. p. xxi. lib.
x. solidi. hoc p. p. ad firma ipsius.

Iudicia comitissa fuit. vii. lib. de. canel. ad burgi.

Huc Annotati Tenentarias in Northamptonshire.

Regis Willelmi. Willelmus de Cahanget.

Episcopus Batoniensis. Willelmus p. e.

Episcopus Dunelmensis. Willelmus filius Anselmi.

Episcopus Constantiensis. Willelmus Loueth.

Episcopus Lincolnensis. Willelmus de Cioches.

Abbas de Burgo. Willelmus de Cioches.

Abbas de Westmonasterio. Willelmus de Cioches.

Abbas de s. Edmundo. Willelmus de Cioches.

Abbas de Ramessy. Willelmus de Cioches.

Abbas de Couentrey. Willelmus de Cioches.

Abbas de Euesham. Willelmus de Cioches.

Abbas de Grestam. Willelmus de Cioches.

Abbas de Remig. Willelmus de Cioches.

Abbas de Capellanis. Willelmus de Cioches.

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